



Nursing Mom with Babies Supply List

The SPCA of Wake County can provide the majority of these items whenever possible. Foster parents are also welcome to purchase their own if preferred. For brand specifics or for easy online ordering, check out the Amazon Wish List at: www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/25EDGS3MB2MWE?ref=wl_share

General Supplies for moms with babies:

- Whelping area: refer to the species specifics below
 - Cats & Dogs: should be lined with blankets & towels
 - Should be large enough for mom to lay comfortably in
- Food and water bowls for mom placed outside of the whelping area
- Produce scale
- Heat Source (Rice socks and/or SnuggleSafe)
 - For when mom needs a break
- Disposable gloves
- Extra towels & blankets
 - fleece blankets are highly recommended
- Digital Thermometer
- Medication checklist if needed
- Hand sanitizer
- Space heater if necessary
 - Consult with Foster Coordinator about best setup

Optional, but nice to have on hand!

- Soothing sounds and music
- Velcro collars (for litters that are same sex & color)

Once Weaned & Mobile (~4 weeks old):

- Toys for enrichment
- Wet & dry food
- Small dishes for food
 - Flat plate/platter for wet food/ gruel
- Heavy, low water dishes

Queens with Kittens:

- Dog crate, large playpen, cat condo or even bathtub as the main enclosed space
- A carrier, litter box (without litter!) or open cardboard box can be used as the whelping area
- Non-clumping litter
 - Pine, newspaper and walnut pellets are safe too
- Cat scratchers
- Litter pans
 - Mom's litter box should be outside of the whelping area and placed as far away from her food and water as possible
 - Cardboard food trays are perfect for training kittens

Example Setups



Mom dogs with Puppies:

- An x-pen sectioned off area or a spare room with a baby gate as the main enclosed space
- Kiddie pool, large crate, or large playpen can be used as the whelping area
- Leash, collar and harness for walking mom dog
- Puppy pads or newspapers

- Warning: they may want to eat or shred them!
- Poop bags for easy clean up and to reduce puppies stepping in it
- Crate and/or playpen
 - For large breeds/ groups, 1 puppy-proofed room with a baby gate would suffice
- Human scale may be necessary for large breed puppies once they get older

Example Setups



DIY Wooden Whelping Box, YouTube: youtu.be/33gRwjTluAk

DIY PVC Playpen area, YouTube: youtu.be/VIAHF410t4E

Small Critters with pups (rabbits, guinea pigs, mice/rats):

- A secure cage (or tank for mice only), ideally placed in a separate room with a closed door
- Whelping areas
 - Rabbits: open litter pans or cardboard boxes
 - Guinea pigs, mice and rats: cardboard or chipboard boxes
 - If using cardboard/ chipboard, it should have two exit holes cut out
- Bedding: timothy hay, shredded newspaper and fleece are all safe materials
 - Mom will use some of her own fur to line the nest
 - **Do not use cat litter, even pelleted litter, under any circumstances as it will cause respiratory issues**
- Adult small pet supplies: water bottle, chew toys, exercise wheels (rats/mice only), litter box (rabbits or guinea pigs), etc.
- Fresh fruits & veggies for mom
 - Consult the Small Critter Veggie List for more details on what each species can eat
 - Greens should not be introduced to babies until they are 4 - 6 months old as it can cause digestive upset
 - When in doubt, ask the Foster Coordinator!

Example setups



Additional / Emergency Neonate Supplies:

- Formula
 - Make sure KMR for kittens & Esbilac for puppies
 - Store any open and mixed formula in the fridge. See Letter for more details.
- Bottles, Syringes & Nipples
 - Make sure nipples are for the correct species
 - Miracle nipples are highly recommended
- Nasal aspirator
- Small stuffed toy to cuddle with
 - *No bean stuffings or plastic eyes!*