

HOW TO USE A SAVE-A-KID SYRINGE

It is impossible to bottle feed a very weak or unconscious kid. The dangers of inhaling the liquid and causing pneumonia make the use of a Save-A-kid syringe the only practical alternative. Any kid that is not nursing well should be fed in this manner. Whatever the reason if the kid is in a weakened or badly chilled condition the use of a Save-A-Kid syringe is definitely the answer.

The procedure is really quiet simple. Do not be afraid that you will accidentally get fluid in the lungs. Actually, it is rather difficult to mistakenly put the tube into the lungs. With a minimal amount of care, the feeding tube will reach its proper destination.

Let's get started:

- Determine the correct amount to be fed by using this formula:

A kid will need 10% of its body weight every 24 hours. For example, if it weighs 2 lbs. (32 oz.), it needs 3.2 oz. (96 cc) that day. Ideally, you would feed 24 cc four times the first day or two. As the kid begins to gain weight, increase the amount of the colostrum/milk proportionately. Tube feeding will only be necessary while the kid is too weak to suck.

- Separate the feeding tube from the syringe and put the proper amount of milk into the syringe.
- Next, determine how far the feeding tube needs to go to reach the stomach by positioning the tube along the outside of the kid with the feeding tip reaching to the last rib and the syringe end of the feeding tube at the mouth. With a permanent marker, mark the spot at the mouth.
- Rest the kid on your lap with the head slightly back to provide a straight path for the feeding tube to follow.
- Open the kid's mouth a little by pressing on either side of the jaw with your fingers. Put the tube in the mouth toward the back of the throat. Slide the tube gently down the kid's throat encouraging the kid to swallow it. Continue to gently push the tube through the esophagus into the stomach. If you can feel the motion of the tube when you put your hand on front of its throat, you will know it is in the esophagus rather than the trachea. If it stops far short of the mark on the tube, you will know that you are in the lungs and will need to start again.
- With the tube properly positioned in the stomach, you can now attach the syringe containing the proper amount of warm colostrum. Slowly press the liquid into the stomach. When the syringe is empty, detach the tube, pinch the end shut to prevent the fluid from leaking into the lungs as you pull it out gently.

Often times you will see a response from the kid as soon as five min. after receiving the colostrum. By learning this procedure you can save a kid that can't nurse on its own.

