

General Feeding Information for Puppies/Kittens

Milk:

- The Santa Fe Animal Shelter can provide foster parents with KMR milk replacement. Although mom's milk is the best, this replacement is the next closest supplement to mom.
- As a general rule, milk powder should be mixed in a 1:2 ratio; 1 part powder, 2 parts water. The milk should be the consistency of skim milk and can be heated up slightly (but not too hot) to mimic mom's milk temperature. The milk should NOT be lumpy.
- Milk replacement should be provided at all times for the kittens as well as nursing mothers. This helps with valuable nutrients and also helps with soft stools.

Food:

- All foster parents can be provided pate style food for their kittens. We do not recommend using chunky food as the kittens are not used to it and can choke.
- Once puppies are ready to begin transitioning from milk to hard food, it is best to mix up "gruel." Gruel is a mixture of milk replacement and hard or soft food to make it a gooey consistency so the puppies can begin their transition.
- Do not hold back on feeding kittens and puppies as well as nursing mothers. With growing kittens/puppies and with nursing mothers, it is important that they get as many calories as possible.

