

# Found a Young Squirrel?



## South Florida WILDLIFE CENTER

### IF YOU CARE LEAVE IT THERE!

- Unless the young squirrel (pup) is injured, please leave it alone as the mother is probably nearby and she will pick up the pup and bring it back to the nest.
- If the pup is at risk, place it in a box or basket that can be hung or placed in a tree near the nest.
- Use something soft like a T-shirt or pillowcase to line the box/basket (don't use towels as tiny toenails can easily get caught in the towel loops).
- **Please do not attempt to feed or give fluids.**
- If the mother has not retrieved the young after a few hours, please call the South Florida Wildlife Center.

Squirrels have litters of up to 4 or 5 young twice a year, in early spring and late summer. Small, "friendly" squirrels with skinny tails are still too young and need their mother's care. Young squirrels leave their nests at six weeks old and are on their own by eight to nine weeks of age. If the original nest is destroyed and the mother is still around, she will move her young to another nesting site.



If the young squirrel is injured, the mother does not return or you have any questions, call South Florida Wildlife Center.

Remember to approach all wildlife with caution and always wear heavy, protective gloves when handling.

If possible, leave wildlife in the wild where they belong.

Please share this to help us keep wildlife safe.

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