



EASTERN CHIPMUNKS

KEY FACTS

- Chipmunks are born from March to September. Gestation- 31 days.
- At birth, babies are hairless, with eyes and ears closed. They are about 2.5 inches long.
- At 1 week, their stripes start to show, and fur begins to grow in.
- At 2 weeks, their eyes are still closed, lower teeth start to emerge, and they have most of their fur.
- At 3 weeks, their ears are open, the top teeth emerge.
- At 4 weeks, eyes are fully open, and their stripes are clearly visible, and they are very active.
- **Nesting** – nests are in stone walls, rocks, and underground. These are not easily found.
- Chipmunks are on their own at about 12 weeks



Wildlife Rehabilitators' Association of Massachusetts

NESTS

Nests are built in stone walls, wood piles, rocky areas in the woods. These are not obvious.

IF A CHIPMUNK IS FOUND ON THE GROUND:

Chipmunks found outside the nest are likely orphans and will need to be rescued. But it is always good to wait a couple of hours to see if the mother will return.

If possible, place the baby on a heat source, like a hot water bottle or a rice filled sock heated in the microwave with a blanket inside a small container. Keep pets and people away from the area. Always wear gloves when handling wildlife.

REUNITING

If the nest is disrupted by excavation or animal digging, the baby will need to go to a rehabilitator. It is not likely that chipmunks can be reunited with their mothers.

WHEN REUNITING FAILS

Call a wildlife rehabilitator. To find the nearest rehabilitator in your area, check out the Mass.gov page:

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/find-a-wildlife-rehabilitator>

