

A fledgling is a young fully-feathered bird that has just started to leave the nest but does not yet have the strength to fly. They are often mistaken for injured adult birds.

A fledgling may stay on the ground for up to two weeks while its parents continue to feed it and teach it all the skills it needs to survive.

## This is normal behaviour and there's no need to intervene unless:

- The bird becomes injured • There is no sign of the bird's parents after several hours
- The bird is in immediate danger

## You can help by:

- Keeping dogs on leashes and cats inside
- Keeping children away from the bird
- Giving the birds lots of space
- Don't feed the fledgling
- If the bird is in immediate danger (eg on the road)
- pick it up and put it in a safer spot in a bush or tree. The parents will not abandon it because you touched it.

## If you're concerned or the bird becomes injured, please contact Wildlife Victoria on (03) 8400 7300 for advice.

www.wildlifevictoria.org.au

