Newborn Life Support

**Dry the baby, remove any wet cloth and cover**

**Initial Assessment at Birth**
Start the clock or note the time
Assess: COLOUR, TONE, BREATHING, HEART RATE

**If not breathing ...**

**Control the airway**
Head in the neutral position

**Support the breathing**
If not breathing - FIVE INFLATION BREATHS (each 2-3 seconds duration)
Confirm a response:- increase in HEART RATE or visible CHEST MOVEMENT

**If there is no response**
Double check head position and apply JAW THRUST
5 inflation breaths
Confirm a response:- increase in HEART RATE or visible CHEST MOVEMENT

**If there is still no response**

a) Use a second person (if available) to help with airway control and repeat inflation breaths
b) Inspect the oropharynx under direct vision (is suction needed?) and repeat inflation breaths
c) Insert an oropharyngeal (Guedel) airway and repeat inflation breaths

*Consider intubation*
Confirm a response:- increase in HEART RATE or visible CHEST MOVEMENT

**When the chest is moving**
Continue the ventilation breaths if no spontaneous breathing

**Check the heart rate**
If the heart rate is not detectable or slow (less than around 60 bpm) and NOT increasing

**Start chest compressions**
First confirm chest movement - if chest not moving *return to airway*
3 chest compressions to 1 breath for 30 seconds

**Reassess Heart Rate**
If improving - stop chest compressions, continue ventilation if not breathing
If heart rate still slow, continue ventilation and chest compressions
Consider venous access and drugs at this stage

AT ALL STAGES, ASK ..... DO YOU NEED HELP ?

In the presence of meconium, remember:
- Screaming babies :- have an open airway
- Floppy babies :- have a look