

BEST NEW BABY GEAR AND GADGETS

TheBump.com Editor in Chief Carley Roney showcased next-generation baby gear and gadgets, in numerous price ranges, on *The Early Show* on Tuesday, March 24, 2009.

If you want to stay hip and trendy once your baby arrives, the stuff Roney spotlighted is designed to make life easier for you and your little one!:

TheBump.com has selected some of the most buzz-worthy baby products for new parents. This is just the first wave of what's going to be the future in baby gadgets, as more models and products hit the market. They range from the most outrageous (baby crying analyzer) to the latest, not even-on-the-market gear (Zigo bicycle carrier).

Says Roney:

Everyone still wants the best for their babies, even in times like this. 41 percent of new moms are not cutting back on spending for baby because of financial concerns, according to our 2nd Annual Pregnancy & Baby Study. With the excitement of a new baby, parents can easily spend thousands and thousands of dollars. The average parent spends \$3,342 during pregnancy just in preparation for baby -- not including gifts and registries, our survey says.

But if you're a high-tech parent, you don't necessarily have to spend a bundle on the latest and greatest baby gizmos. We've picked baby technology that can cost as little as \$5! There definitely are some pricey picks, too, but keep in mind that, as more versions of these baby gadgets come out, they'll become less expensive.

Also, there are definitely ways you can still easily get baby gear on the cheap!:

- Keep the Bs in Mind (Borrow & Bargain Hunt): Borrow from family and friends -- there's nothing wrong with hand-me-downs! And bargain hunt at second-hand shops and local parenting Websites. You can swap gently-used goods with other families on TheBump.com's Swap Spot section, FreeCycle.org and Zwaggle.com. Also check out local parent classifieds to see what your neighbors are getting rid of. Many cities have a Yahoo group specifically for the neighborhood's parents where there are tons of postings for free items. One parent's trash is another parent's treasure!
- Register for Big-Ticket items: Although you may feel a little funny about registering for things such as a fancy video monitor or even a crib, these can be great ideas for group gifts.

PRODUCTS:

Baby Crying Analyzer - \$99

www.whycry.com

- Parenting is hard enough-so techy parents looking for any help they can get when baby won't stop crying might appreciate the WhyCry Baby Cry Analyzer
- With an 87 percent accuracy rate, this gadget displays five simple expressions: hungry, bored, annoyed, sleepy and stressed to let you know what's getting baby all worked up
- The WhyCry Baby Crying Analyzer's microphone will pick up baby's crying, digitally process the cry, and the light indicator will let you know why baby's upset
- The WhyCry Baby Crying Analyzer comes up with its analysis via baby's crying power, frequency, correlation with an established pattern and crying intervals

Beaba Babycook - \$149.95

www.williams-sonoma.com

- The French baby-food maker that won praise throughout Europe is now available in the US!
- It's a compact countertop appliance that multitasks as a steamer, blender, warmer and defroster to prepare fresh, healthy meals for baby

- It starts by steam cooking vegetables, fruits, meat and fish in less than 15 minutes, preserving their vitamins and flavors, then purees or blends them to your desired consistency
- You can even use it to quickly reheat or defrost precooked foods!
- Enables parents to provide the best ingredients for their baby's food at a fraction of the cost of jarred foods. And it drastically cuts down on packaging and waste. In fact, making your own baby food can save you anywhere from 50 percent to 80 percent!
- Plus, it's BPA-free!

Squirt Baby Food Dispensing Spoon - \$7.99

www.booninc.com

- The Squirt Baby Food Dispensing Spoon from Boon makes it super-convenient for feeding baby one bite at a time, using only one hand at a time, without any mess
- This gotta-have gizmo holds 3 oz. of baby's food inside, so you can leave the bowl and food jar behind. It's perfect for outings too!
- Just squeeze the soft handle to fill the spoon
- Leak-proof cover included
- BPA-free! Phthalate-free! PVC-free! Plus, it's dishwasher-safe

Pipila Pacifier Sanitizer - \$30

www.pipilausa.com

- Think about all the places a pacifier falls and what parents do to clean them before putting it back in baby's mouth. Now think about all the germs those suckers gather after a while and you might just run out and buy a Pipila Pacifier Sanitizer!
- The Pipila Pacifier Sanitizer is a portable pacifier sanitizer that uses UV and ozone rays to kill 99.9 percent of germs
- Just stick the dirty pacifier in the Pipila Pacifier Sanitizer and in about five minutes, it'll fully sterilize a binky
- About the size of a baseball, the Pipila accommodates most pacifier shapes and doesn't distort the nipple in its cleaning process
- There's only one other pacifier sanitizer - but the Pipila accommodates more pacifiers
- It was introduced in Australia first and won an iParenting Media Award in 2008

Baby iPhone Applications - \$4.99 to \$7.99

www.apple.com

<http://www.codegoo.com/page/baby-monitor>

<http://www.andesigned.net/>

- Some of the best and cheapest tech gear for babies are iPhone applications

- Two applications we love:

- Baby Tracker: Nursing

§ Moms can surf on their iPhone while nursing, and easily just click on this application while nursing

§ Keeping track of breastfeeding shouldn't be adding stress to your life! The baby Tracker: Nursing application keeps track of your nursing sessions with just a few clicks, allowing you to relax and focus on feeding your baby without worrying about lists, stopwatches or extraneous ribbons and bracelets\

§ It's a real time tool. With just a few clicks, your nursing session is recorded: length of time and the side you nursed on, and always noting which side you nursed on last

§ A detailed nursing history is always right in front of you and permanently stored in daily logs for future reference. And since it's on your iPhone or iPod touch, you'll always have it with you

§ Keep track of up to six babies!

§ Record bottle feedings by type too - either formula or milk, volume and amount

§ Export the data via email too into an Excel doc

o Baby Monitor

§ Traveling and don't feel like bringing your baby monitor with you?

§ The Baby Monitor iPhone application will actually monitor your baby! Just place your iPhone near your sleeping baby and if it detects noise, it'll place a phone call to the number of your choice so you can then listen in for activity from your baby

§ Have a curious baby? The monitor will even detect if your baby picks up the phone-it's great for curious toddlers who wake up from their nap without making noise

§ The monitor has unlimited range!

Summer Infant Complete Coverage Video Monitoring System

www.babiesrus.com

- You wouldn't even think this is a baby monitor with the large 7" LCD color flat screen!
- This is the only baby monitor on the market that has an LCD flat screen
- This set includes the flat screen and a 1.8" color handheld parental unit
- There's day and night vision, a swivel stand and multiple tilt option, and it can be set on a table top or under the counter

BabyBjorn Babysitter Balance

www.babybjorn.com

-Launched in September 2008

- \$169.99

- Moves with baby's natural movement-which is better for baby's sleep pattern
- Pediatricians (according to BabyBjorn) say that you don't want baby to become dependent on movement (vibration) to remain sleeping. Lots of techy bouncy seats boast about vibration features-which is why it's good that BabyBjorn Babysitter Balance just moves with natural movement
- Natural movement helps stimulate baby's balance
- Can use as a toddler seat by just taking the front strap out, so it grows with your child-good budget tip!
- No toxic / harmful chemicals in the textiles of the carrier

Zigo Leader Carrier Bicycle - \$1,

www.myzigo.com

- Launching early April 2009 - not even on the market yet!
- We've all seen parents ride their bicycles with babies in a back seat-but imagine how dangerous it could be when the parent is constantly looking back to check on baby!
- The Zigo Leader Carrier Bicycle allows parents to transform the Zigo so they can either ride a bike with baby in the ChildPod, jog/walk with baby in the ChildPod as if it's a regular stroller, or even unstrap the carrier completely and ride a bike
- When using it as a carrier bike, child must be at least 1 year old or able to sit upright. As a jogger, baby should be at least six months
- No other carrier or trailer bike like this on the market