

HI-TECH GADGETS TO SOOTHE, BUSY, TEACH BABIES

CNET-TV Senior Editor Natali Del Conte visited The Early Show on Thursday, May 28, 2009 with word on how parents are using gadgets and applications as modern day baby rattles. The items she featured are being used to relax babies, keep them busy, or teach them things.

According to Natali:

Parents often hand their cell phones to children as distractions and now toy versions tap into kids' love of pushing beeping buttons and playing with electronic gadgets like the ones their parents have.

A number of applications on smartphones have parents using them more than ever as modern baby rattles.

Kids seem to know how to use gadgets almost from the womb these days.

Even when our gadgets aren't made for children, they can still be useful parenting tools.

Every phone has some kind of white noise or toy application. We have chosen just two.

Gaming gadgets get children all riled up. We have some gadgets that will calm them down.

1. iPhone Applications: Baby Rattle Bab Bab Lite

- Cost: Free
- Where to buy: iTunes App Store
- Features:
 - o Uses the iPhone's accelerometer to make sound when tilted, inverted, and rattled
 - o Colorful display responds to baby's fingers
 - o Various tempos and rhythms

2. G1 Dream Ultimate

- Cost: Free
- Where to buy: G1 Marketplace
- Features:
 - o Provides white noise or background noise from 10 relaxing tracks
 - o Escape to the beach, water, or rain sound
 - o Helps relax you and your baby at the same time

+++ #3 & #4 will be done together++++

3. Maxell Kits Safe Headphones

- * Cost: \$12.99
- * Where to buy: Amazon/Toys R Us
- * Features:
 - > * Max volume of 90 decibels
 - >> * Hearing experts say that 85 decibels is the safest level for listening but
 - >> you can sustain your hearing with prolonged exposure to 90 decibels. Above 90
 - >> is risking hearing damage
 - > * Small size for children
 - > * Interchangeable caps come in pink, blue, and silver

4. Maxell Kits Safe Ear Clips

- * Cost: \$12.99
- * Where to buy: Amazon/Toys R Us
- * Features:
 - > * Max volume of 90 decibels

- >> * Hearing experts say that 85 decibels is the safest level for listening but
- >> you can sustain your hearing with prolonged exposure to 90 decibels. Above 90
- >> is risking hearing damage
- > * Small size for children
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4. **LeapFrog Text and Learn:** <http://www.leapfrog.com/en/landingpages/textandlearn.html>

- Cost: \$21.99
- Where to buy: leapfrog.com
- Features
 - o Give your child his/her own PDA instead of letting them slobber on yours or accidentally send messages
 - o Not really a networked device so they won't be communicating with anyone
 - o Games focus on spelling and basic computer skills
 - o Ages 3 and up

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http://www.brookstone.com/store/product.asp?product_code=467019&search_type=search&search_words=tranquil%20moments&prodtemp=i2&cm_re=Result*R1C1*A

- Cost: \$70
- Where to buy: Brookstone5. **Tranquil Moments Sounds for Baby**
- Features
 - o Provides relaxing lullaby music in 30, 60, or 90-minute intervals
 - o Sounds include: Prenatal, Lullaby, Dolphins, Car Ride, Heartbeat, or White Noise
 - o Sleep Enhancement Technology gradually slows down the program and decreases volume to as your child (or yourself) goes to sleep