



Bright Futures Parent Handout 2 to 5 Day (First Week) Visit

Here are some suggestions from Bright Futures experts that may be of value to your family.

How You Are Feeling

- Call us for help if you feel sad, blue, or overwhelmed for more than a few days.
- Try to sleep or rest when your baby sleeps.
- Take help from family and friends.
- Give your other children small, safe ways to help you with the baby.
- Spend special time alone with each child.
- Keep up family routines.
- If you are offered advice that you do not want or do not agree with, smile, say thanks, and change the subject.

PARENTAL WELL-BEING

Feeding Your Baby

- Feed only breast milk or iron-fortified formula, no water, in the first 6 months.
- Feed when your baby is hungry.
 - Puts hand to mouth
 - Sucks or roots
 - Fussing
- End feeding when you see your baby is full.
 - Turns away
 - Closes mouth
 - Relaxes hands

NUTRITIONAL ADEQUACY

If Breastfeeding

- Breastfeed 8–12 times per day.
- Make sure your baby has 6–8 wet diapers a day.
- Avoid foods you are allergic to.
- Wait until your baby is 4–6 weeks old before using a pacifier.
- A breastfeeding specialist can give you information and support on how to position your baby to make you more comfortable.
- WIC has nursing supplies for mothers who breastfeed.

NUTRITIONAL ADEQUACY

If Formula Feeding

- Offer your baby 2 oz every 2–3 hours, more if still hungry.
- Hold your baby so you can look at each other while feeding
- Do not prop the bottle.
- Give your baby a pacifier when sleeping.

NUTRITIONAL ADEQUACY

Baby Care

- Use a rectal thermometer, not an ear thermometer.
- Check for fever, which is a rectal temperature of 100.4°F/38.0°C or higher.
- In babies 3 months and younger, fevers are serious. Call us if your baby has a temperature of 100.4°F/38.0°C or higher.
- Take a first aid and infant CPR class.
- Have a list of phone numbers for emergencies.
- Have everyone who touches the baby wash their hands first.
- Wash your hands often.
- Avoid crowds.
- Keep your baby out of the sun; use sunscreen only if there is no shade.
- Know that babies get many rashes from 4–8 weeks of age. Call us if you are worried.

NEWBORN CARE

Getting Used to Your Baby

- Comfort your baby.
 - Gently touch baby's head.
 - Rocking baby.
- Start routines for bathing, feeding, sleeping, and playing daily.
- Help wake your baby for feedings by
 - Patting
 - Changing diaper
 - Undressing

NEWBORN TRANSITION

- Put your baby to sleep on his or her back.
 - In a safe crib, in your room, not in your bed.
 - Swaddled or with tucked blankets.
 - Do not use loose, soft bedding or toys in the crib such as comforters, pillows, or pillow-like bumper pads.
- Use a crib with slats close together.
 - 2³/₈ inches apart or less
- Keep the baby from getting too warm or cold.

NEWBORN TRANSITION

Safety

- The car safety seat should be rear-facing in the middle of the back seat in all vehicles.
- Your baby should never be in a seat with a passenger air bag.
- Keep your car and home smoke free.
- Keep your baby safe from hot water and hot drinks.
- Do not drink hot liquids while holding your baby.
- Make sure your water heater is set at lower than 120°F.
- Test your baby's bathwater with your wrist.
- Always wear a seat belt and never drink and drive.

SAFETY

What to Expect at Your Baby's 1 Month Visit

We will talk about

- Any concerns you have about your baby
- Feeding your baby and watching him or her grow
- How your baby is doing with your whole family
- Your health and recovery
- Your plans to go back to school or work
- Caring for and protecting your baby
- Safety at home and in the car



American Academy of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

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Bright Futures Parent Handout 1 Month Visit

Here are some suggestions from Bright Futures experts that may be of value to your family.

PARENTAL WELL-BEING

How You Are Feeling

- Taking care of yourself gives you the energy to care for your baby. Remember to go for your postpartum checkup.
- Call for help if you feel sad or blue, or very tired for more than a few days.
- Know that returning to work or school is hard for many parents.
- Find safe, loving child care for your baby. You can ask us for help.
- If you plan to go back to work or school, start thinking about how you can keep breastfeeding.

SAFETY

Safety

- Use a rear-facing car safety seat in all vehicles.
- Never put your baby in the front seat of a vehicle with a passenger air bag.
- Always wear your seat belt and never drive after using alcohol or drugs.
- Keep your car and home smoke free.
- Keep hanging cords or strings away from and necklaces and bracelets off of your baby.
- Keep a hand on your baby when changing clothes or the diaper.

INFANT ADJUSTMENT

Getting to Know Your Baby

- Have simple routines each day for bathing, feeding, sleeping, and playing.
- Put your baby to sleep on his back.
 - In your room.
 - Not in your bed.
 - In a crib, with slats less than 2³/₈ inches apart.
 - With the crib's sides always up.
- If using a playpen, make sure the weave is less than 1/4 inch and never leave the baby in it with the drop side down.
- Hold and cuddle your baby often.
 - Tummy time—put your baby on his tummy when awake and you are there to watch.
- Crying is normal and may increase when your baby is 6–8 weeks old.
- When your baby is crying, comfort him by talking, patting, stroking, and rocking.
- *Never shake your baby.*
- If you feel upset, put your baby in a safe place; call for help.

FAMILY ADJUSTMENT

Your Baby and Family

- Plan with your partner, friends, and family to have time for yourself.
- Take time with your partner too.
- Let us know if you are having any problems and cannot make ends meet. There are resources in our community that can help you.
- Join a new parents group or call us for help to connect to others if you feel alone and lonely.
- Call for help if you are ever hit or hurt by someone and if you and your baby are not safe at home.
- Prepare for an emergency/illness.
 - Keep a first-aid kit in your home.
 - Learn infant CPR.
 - Have a list of emergency phone numbers.
 - Know how to take your baby's temperature rectally. Call us if it is 100.4°F (38.0°C) or higher.
- Wash your hands often to help your baby stay healthy.

FEEDING ROUTINES

- Pat, rock, undress, or change the diaper to wake your baby to feed.
- Feed your baby when you see signs of hunger.
 - Putting hand to mouth
 - Sucking, rooting, and fussing
- End feeding when you see signs your baby is full.
 - Turning away
 - Closing the mouth
 - Relaxed arms and hands
- Breastfeed or bottle-feed 8–12 times per day.
- Burp your baby during natural feeding breaks.
- Having 5–8 wet diapers and 3–4 stools each day shows your baby is eating well.

If Breastfeeding

- Continue to take your prenatal vitamins.
- When breastfeeding is going well (usually at 4–6 weeks), you can offer your baby a bottle or pacifier.

If Formula Feeding

- Always prepare, heat, and store formula safely. If you need help, ask us.
- Feed your baby 2 oz every 2–3 hours. If your baby is still hungry, you can feed more.
- Hold your baby so you can look at each other.
- Do not prop the bottle.

What to Expect at Your Baby's 2 Month Visit

We will talk about

- Taking care of yourself and your family
- Sleep and crib safety
- Keeping your home safe for your baby
- Getting back to work or school and finding child care
- Feeding your baby

Poison Help: 1-800-222-1222

Child safety seat inspection:
1-866-SEATCHECK; seatcheck.org



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