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No. 2 out of 10 Best Toiletries

The 50 Best

BABY PRODUCTS

3 TRICOTTI SLING

It can be used from birth up until your baby is two years old, and is very popular among parents, winning the Parents' Award for Best Sling in Babygear and Toddler magazine this year. "This elegant baby sling allows you to wear your baby," Janet outlines. "Comfortable, practical and very stylish, it's my favourite baby carrier." Made with reusable-washable cotton that contains non-toxic chemical-free dyes, it's safe for your baby to chew. Allow for five different carrying positions.

Where from: Baby Hut (01273 245 864; www.babyhut.co.uk)
How much: £44.99.

4 FUZZI BUNZ CLOTH POCKET NAPPY

These are washable "pocket nappies" between a waterproof outer layer and a microfibre inner layer, there's space to put disposable, absorbent pads. "The fibre layer remains fairly dry even if the nappy is very wet, so they don't feel as wet as some other cloth nappies against the baby's skin," Naomi says. The pocket feature makes changing easier. Paper fastenings, they dry quickly - no need for any ecologically unsound tumble-drying - and come in a number of colours.

Where from: www.fuzzibunz.com (includes stockist list) or secondhand from www.ukparents.co.uk
How much: from approximately £9 each (recommended amount: 12 nappies, washed every other day).

5 THE NATURAL NURSERY SKIN CREAM

"This is a fantastic, multi-purpose cream that is totally unadorned and just about as ecologically as it gets," Arabella enthuses. She has good reason to be: this pure nut butter from West Africa is organically grown and fairly traded. Rich in vitamins A, E and K, it is highly recommended for use on nappies and nappy rash, dry skin, sore teats, insect bites, skin blemishes and itchy skin. Multi-purpose indeed.

Where from: The Natural Nursery, an online.
How much: £3.25 for 100g.

8 DISANA MOLTENTUCH BLANKET

These fully organic brushed-cotton blankets are great for swaddling, which "helps newborns feel comforted and makes feeding easier," Janet says. It's comforting to know that you're wrapping your baby in a material that hasn't been treated with chemicals. Good value, too.

Where from: Active Birth Centre, 25 Rickover Road, London (020-7281 6700; www.activebirthcentre.com).
How much: £10.99 for two.

9 KOOSHIES SWIM NAPPY

"Its adjustable Velcro fastening means [my son] has used his since he was four months, and it still fits him at 13 months," Naomi says. Made from ripstop nylon, with an inner mesh layer inside the swim nappy, it's durable, and the Velcro fastenings allow a good fit around the legs and waist. It fasts a pull-up, so it all stays in the nappy.

Where from: Twinkl (0118 969 5556; www.twinkl.co.uk). **How much:** £1.

10 BABY ORGANICS CLEANSER

"A no-soap, no-water cream ideal for newborns," Arabella says. It is an organic blend of calendula, rosehip, camomile and evening primrose oil that doesn't irritate or dry the skin. Apply it with cotton wool as wipes often contain propylene glycol (anti-freeze).

Where from: My Pure (0845 456 0639; www.mypure.co.uk). **How much:** £5.99 for 250ml.

Signum Executive Hatch. A car full of ideas. VAUXHALL

INDEPENDENT 30 July - 5 August 2005

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www.mypure.co.uk