

## Small Talk

# Hearing aids and cochlear implants

All babies are fitted with hearing aids and their supporting professionals will monitor the usefulness of these devices.

Keep talking to the professionals who are involved with your baby so that you can monitor the benefits of your baby's hearing aids.

[www.cochlear.com](http://www.cochlear.com)



## Small Talk

# Hearing aids and cochlear implants

When a baby is fitted with hearing aids or receives a cochlear implant the aim is for these to be worn at all time the baby is awake.

You may feel swamped by the amount of information there is on using hearing aids or cochlear implants – don't forget to ask for information to be repeated for explained again as many times as you need it.

[www.cochlear.com](http://www.cochlear.com)



## Small Talk

# Background noise

When playing and talking with your baby try to ensure that the level of background noise is as low as possible.

# Directing attention to sounds

Help your baby by drawing his/her attention to sounds and voices through play and everyday activities.

[www.cochlear.com](http://www.cochlear.com)



## Small Talk

# Copying babble & shaping babble into words

Older babies begin to produce sequences of speech like sounds e.g. "dada", "baba", "mama".

When your baby makes a sound remember to copy it – this lets your baby know that you are interested in what he/she has to say.

[www.cochlear.com](http://www.cochlear.com)



## Small Talk

### Taking turns

In a conversation one person communicates while the other waits and then the roles are reversed.

A parent will wait for their baby to do something and then interpret it as a contribution to a conversation to which he/she can respond.

To help your baby to understand the way a conversation works remember to wait so that your baby has the chance to take a turn too.

[www.cochlear.com](http://www.cochlear.com)



## Small Talk

### Using baby talk

Parents make changes to their speech when talking to babies. These changes include using a higher pitch, more varied intonation, a slower tempo and a singsong rhythm.

To make your speech sound more interesting to your baby try using baby talk – not only will your voice be more interesting but your facial expressions will be too.

[www.cochlear.com](http://www.cochlear.com)



## Small Talk

### Using baby talk

Early parent-baby conversations are highly repetitive – parents talk about the same topics, all closely related to the baby's everyday needs and routines.

To help your baby begin to make sense of spoken language, try to talk regularly and repeatedly about the same everyday topics e.g. nappy changing and feeding.

[www.cochlear.com](http://www.cochlear.com)



## Small Talk

### Hearing aids and cochlear implants

With appropriate technology e.g. hearing aid or cochlear implant, a baby should be able to hear all of the sounds of speech.

Talk to the professionals who are involved with you and your baby so that you can build up a picture of what sounds your baby can and cannot hear.

[www.cochlear.com](http://www.cochlear.com)

