

# BABY BASICS

## Shower Expectant Mothers With Fun And Knowledge For Their Newborn!

(NAPSA)—When buying clothes for baby showers, many gift givers like to offer a variety of sizes to get new moms through the first two years. The same principle holds true for baby toys. As you search for baby shower gifts this year, don't be shy about bringing a gift the baby will use in a year or more as new moms will appreciate having toddler toys on hand. It is never too early to help moms start the learning process with their newborns either. Look for toys that combine the fun and interactivity with basic learning skills, bringing development value to the baby's playtime. Also, if the new baby has an older brother or sister, bringing a gift for them is a nice, thoughtful touch and can be passed down to infants as they get older. Here are some suggestions to cover the first two years:

**Six Months:** As babies grow through their first six months, they are constantly exploring the world around them and its shapes, colors, textures and sounds. A gift that combines bath time fun with early learning is the Submarine Learning Boat that rewards babies with a playful squirt of water from the submarine's spout when they correctly identify colors, shapes and sounds. Another bath time toy is



**Toys that help babies learn are a much-appreciated gifts at baby showers. Consider toys suitable for children up to 36 months.**

the Musical Bubbles Octopus. With the switch of a button, infants are surrounded with bubbles for dancing, laughing and twirling in the tub. An additional benefit is that infants will enjoy these bath toys for years to come!

**Twelve Months:** Once babies inch toward the one-year mark, they are becoming increasingly mobile. Toys that encourage movement as babies begin standing and taking their first steps are perfect for this age group. The Counting Fun Elephant features an air fountain that distributes colorful balls through the air to teach babies sounds and colors. Eventually, the four piano keys will teach the infant the basics of

numbers and counting. Another great gift idea is the Count & Learn School Bus. This toy moves with the infant as the doggy driver teaches simple counting. Four character balls with interactive sound effects are dropped into the bus and travel out the exit door. The side of the bus features four colorful press-to-sound piano keys.

**Eighteen Months:** As babies near eighteen months, their strength and balance improve as well as their motor skills and hand-eye coordination. The Musical Fun Choo Choo marries music and play as children take a whimsical ride complete with three instrument-playing characters, buttons and shapes. The light-up smokestack and pull cord create engaging train play. For longer-lasting fun, consider the 3-in-1 Learning Zebra Scooter, which converts from a ride-on to a push-and-scoot as your baby learns to walk. Lights and music entertain while infants learn colors, numbers and sounds.

All of these toys are created by VTech. Learn about VTech's offerings for infants and children of all ages at [www.vtechkids.com](http://www.vtechkids.com). Infant products and more information about children's development and learning needs can be found at [www.vtechkids.com/infant](http://www.vtechkids.com/infant).