



## **Educational Baby Toys**

### **Wooden Baby Toys**

Blocks will always be a solid toy for baby, but today, much research and psychological study goes into developing baby toys. There's a reason for the colours, the sounds, the lights, the materials and the shape. To choose the best toys for baby, follow these simple steps:

- Check for sharp edges or rough surfaces as they can cause cuts and splinters.
- Buy washable, non breakable toys for babies.
- Anything small enough to fit into a 35mm film canister can choke a child under three.
- Be wary of toys that make loud noises as they can be harmful to hearing. Particularly toys which are held against the ear, such as walkie talkies and toy mobile phones.
- Buy for your baby's age, not six months ahead.
- Look for toys that grow with baby as she moves through the lying, sitting and standing phases.

### **Playmats**

Small babies just love a playmat. The containment of the mat, with its sides and the gym above, keeps baby feeling safe and secure. They can only see a few centimetres in front of them so they need to feel cocooned, and a playmat does this job well, while at the same time introducing enough stimulation to keep him satisfied. Baby will use a playmat until about 9 months old, so it's worth investing in a good one.

### **Car, cot and pram toys**

As baby starts to reach out to touch things, he'll need a well positioned and secured dangly toy to help with the development of his motor skills and hand-eye coordination.