



Aboriginal
Health Council
of Western Australia

Ear
Health

Simon Says

Hear their future!

Support your baby's
future with a newborn
hearing test.

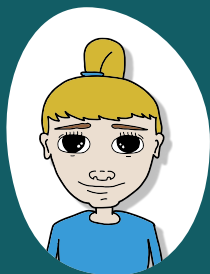


The Simon Says series is all about caring for your ears. This story features newborn screening. Check the back page of this booklet for more from the Simon Says collection.



Kaya! I'm Simon,

I'm Curtis,



I'm Hayley,

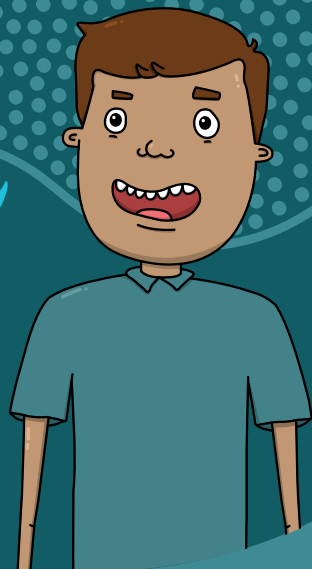
And I'm Keisha,
and this is my baby
brother, Tyson.



Hey you mob, it's Simon hear!



Testing a baby's hearing soon after birth is an important first step toward giving them the best possible start in life, and supporting a brighter future.

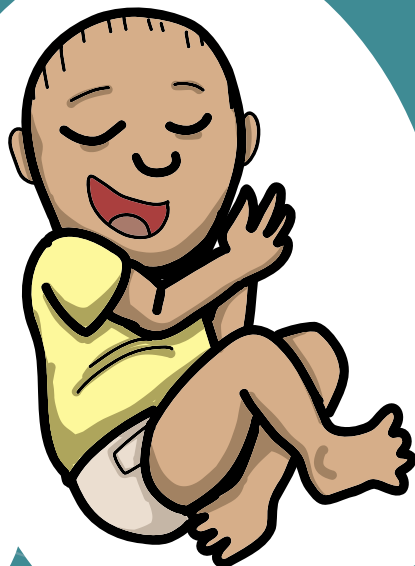


From the moment a baby is born, they begin learning through sound. They listen to voices, and learn patterns in speech, language and talking.



Simon, I have a new baby brother. His name is Tyson.

Simon, why do babies have a hearing test?



Simon Says:

It is important to check all babies for hearing loss early. This will allow doctors to help with their:



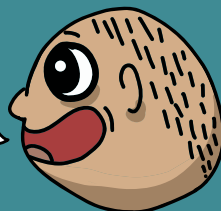
hearing



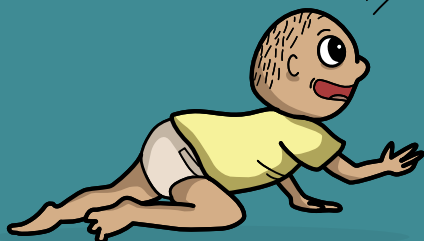
speech

language

Maa
maa



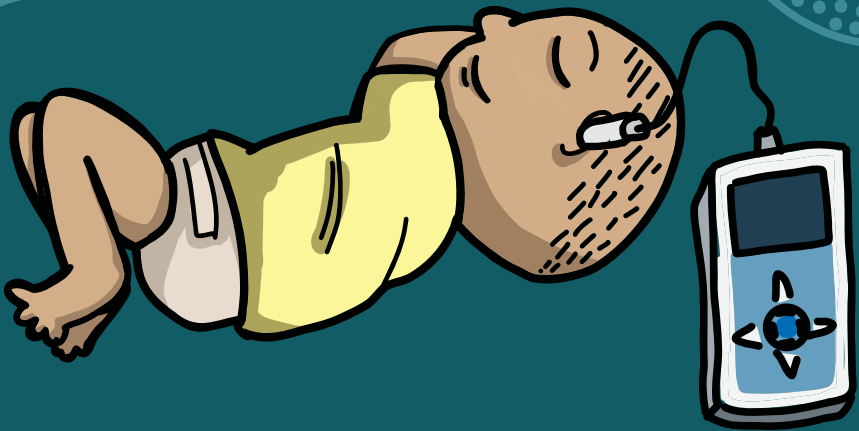
and growth
in the future.



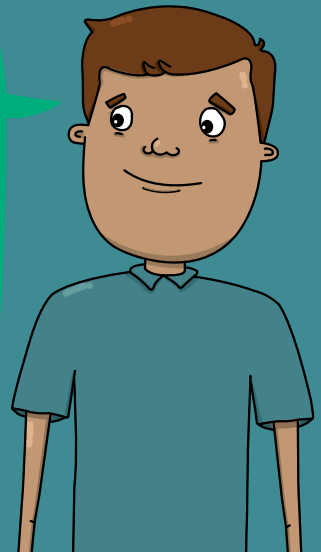
ooh
aah

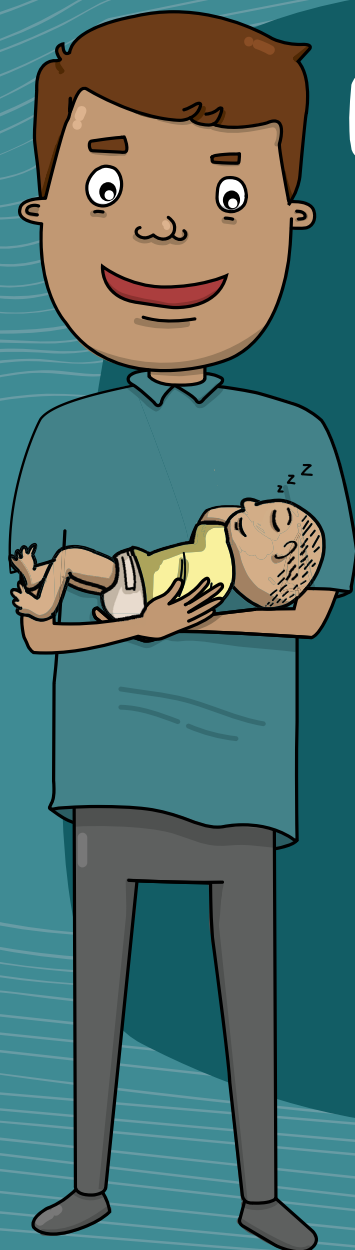


So, Keisha's brother Tyson would have had a hearing test after he was born?

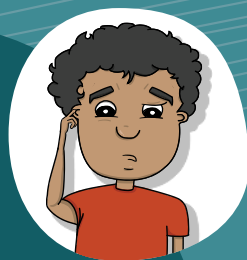


Correct. Hearing tests for babies are safe, quick and they feel no pain. The newborn baby will have a hearing test one to two days after they're born, or close to leaving the hospital.

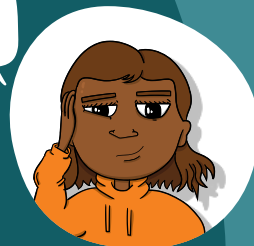




Hmm, so is the baby awake or asleep?

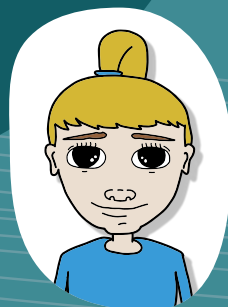


Tyson always sleeps through the test!



Yes Keisha, babies sleep right through the hearing test.

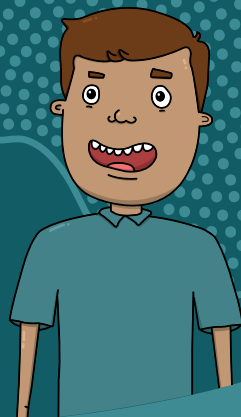
Is the hearing test for babies the same as when we get a hearing test?



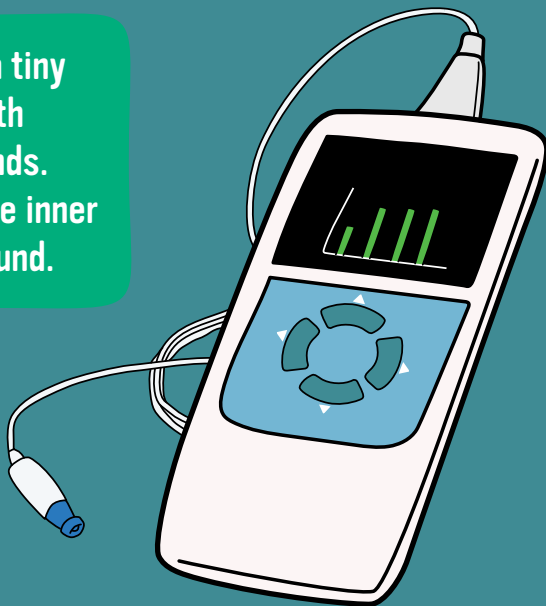
Simon Says:



There are a few ways to screen babies for hearing.

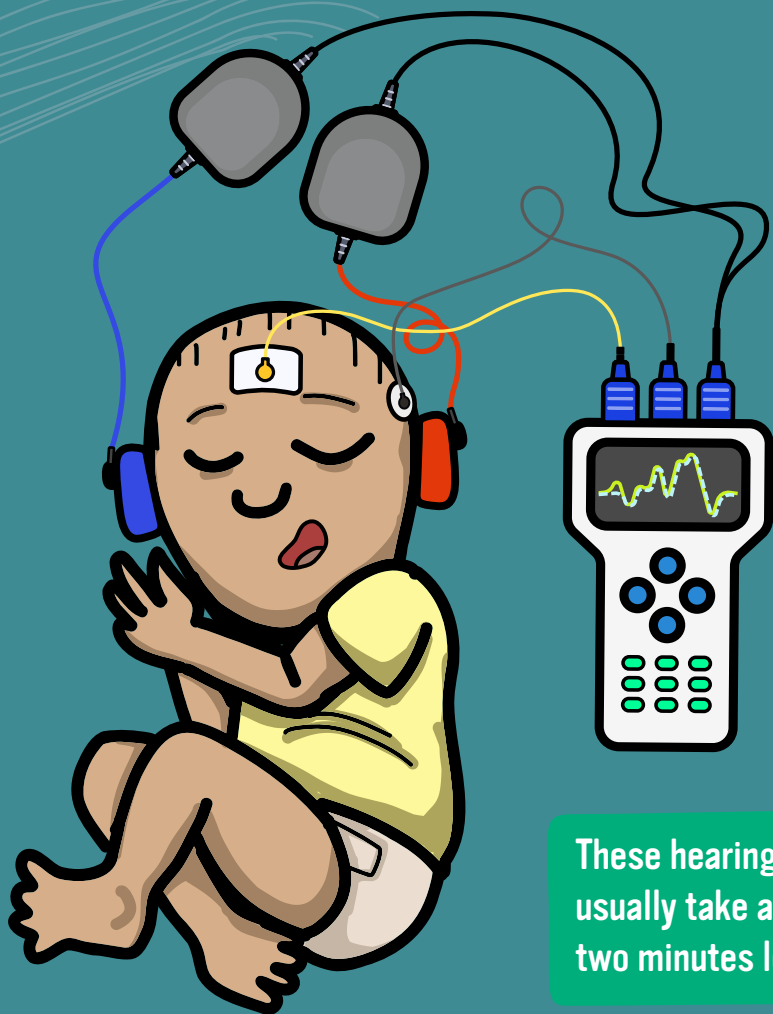


While baby is sleeping, a tiny earphone is placed in both ears that plays soft sounds. A microphone checks the inner ear's response to the sound.

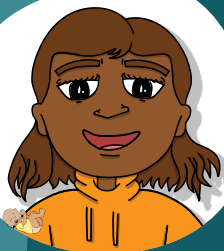


Another way is by placing tiny earphones in both ears. Soft clicking sounds are played to check how the baby's ear and brain respond to sound.

Lastly, some hospitals may have little cup headphones placed over the baby's ears. A tiny sticker with a cord is placed on the forehead and the back of the head. This checks how the baby's ear and brain respond to sound.

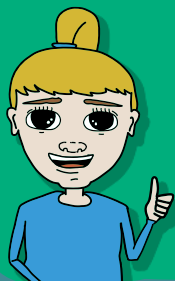
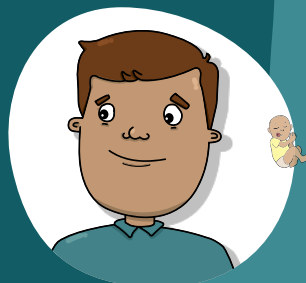


These hearing tests usually take about two minutes long.



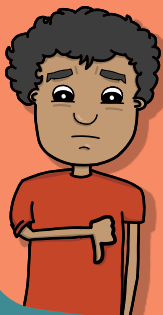
So, my brother Tyson would have had a hearing test after he was born. Hmm, but how do you know if he can hear or not, because he is sleeping?

That's a good question Keisha, let's check what these results are:



PASS

A pass means the baby's hearing was good and there are no further tests needed. Baby can go home.



FAIL

A fail may not mean baby has a hearing loss. However, if the baby has a hearing loss in one or both ears, they will need to be tested one or two more times. Your doctor can make another appointment for a hearing test within two weeks.

Sometimes babies can have a hearing loss for a short time, or the baby may have problems with hearing as they grow in the future.

Simon, what if the baby has hearing loss?

The baby will have ongoing checks to support their speech, language and growth skills.

I am glad my little brother's hearing is good, and my mob too.

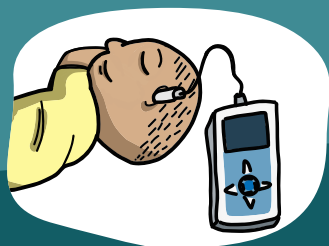
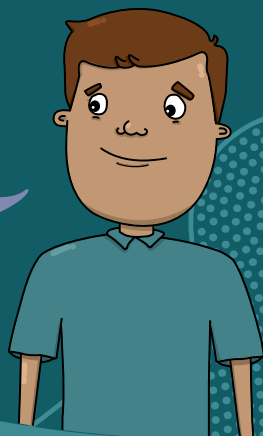
Looking after your babies' ears is protecting your mob.

How Simon?

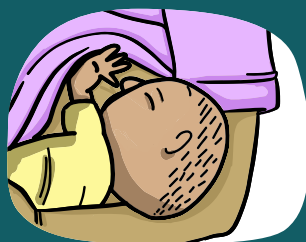


Simon Says:

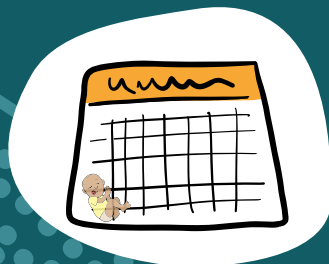
Hear are a few tips for protecting baby's hearing.



Make sure you get your baby a hearing test soon after they are born.

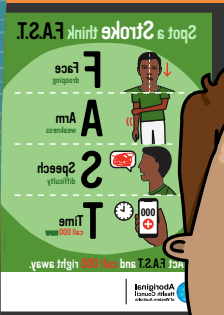


Breastfeeding can calm your baby during their hearing test, and boosts their immune system to help protect against ear infections.



Make sure they have their immunisations and hearing test within the first three months.

If you have any concerns, please visit your doctor at your local AMS or hospital to discuss.

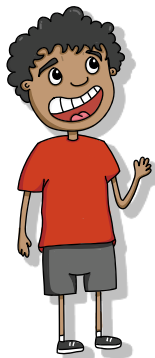
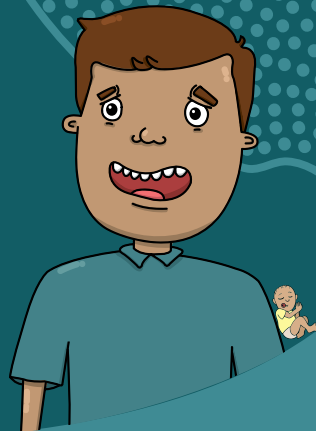


Remember!

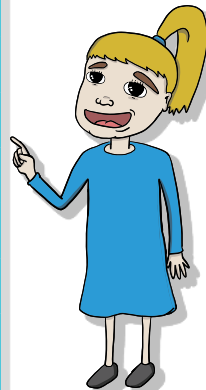
Hear for the future.
Start with a newborn
hearing test!

Simon Says:

If you can find four different words in this puzzle, you are a genius!



EARS	EARS	EARS	EARS
EARS	EARS	EARS	EERS
EARS	EARS	EARS	EARS
ERRS	EARS	EARS	EARS
EARS	EIRS	EARS	EARS
EARS	EARS	EARS	EARS
EARS	EARS	EARS	EARS
EARS	EARS	ERAS	EARS
EARS	EARS	EARS	EARS

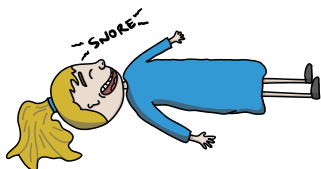


Baby is hiding in the pages.

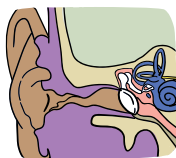


Can you find the baby in the story? How many could you find?

Can you spell the word to match the pictures?



LPQEIGKLESN



SMUERV MAD

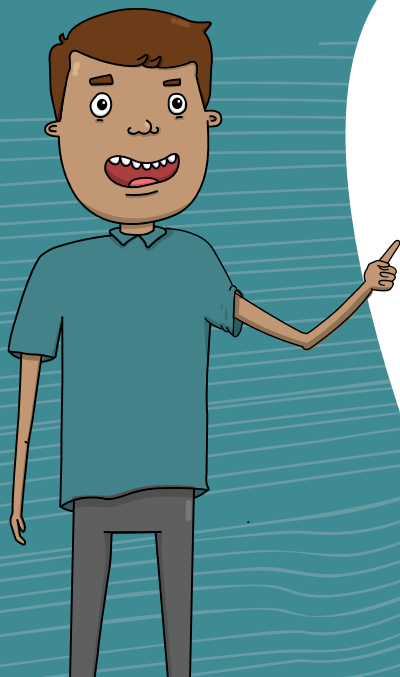


IRTAPOE



KBXZAYPBIO

Can you draw a line to match the pictures with the words?



Sound



Baby



Earphone

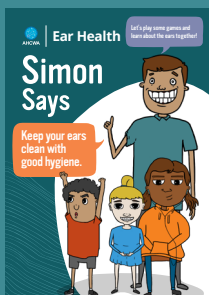


You can download the Simon Says collection.

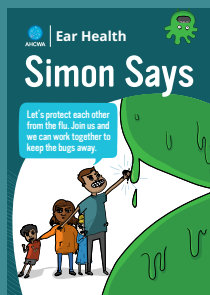


For Member Services, head to the AHCWA Ear Health Portal.

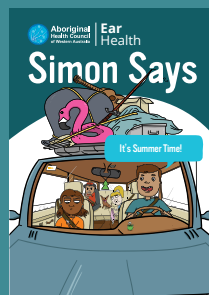
For non-Members please contact Lorraine Taiui:
lorraine.taiui@ahcwa.org



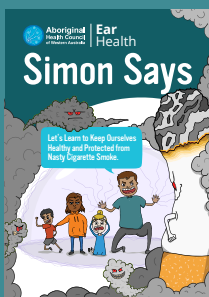
Volume 1



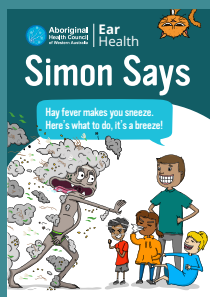
Volume 2



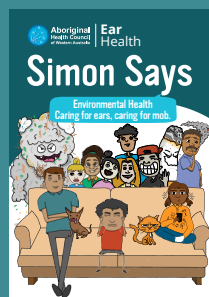
Volume 3



Volume 4



Volume 5



Volume 7



Volume 6



Volume 8

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For more information please contact:

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