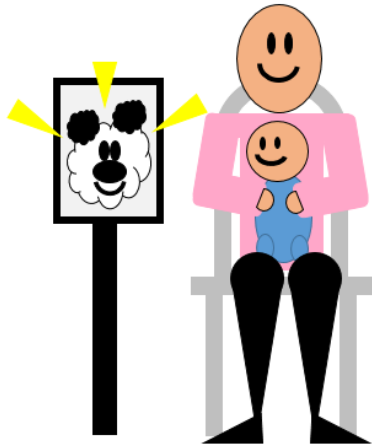


Getting Ready for your Baby's Hearing Test (8 months-3 years)

About your appointment...

Your audiologist will use several tests to check your infant or toddler's ears and hearing. The audiologist will use a light to look inside your baby's ears and will hold a soft tip up to their ear to check how different parts of the ear are working. One of the tests is called **Visual Reinforcement Audiometry** or "VRA". A VRA test uses toys that light up when your baby turns their head towards a sound. The audiologist will play different types of sounds to your baby through small foam earphones or speakers.



Your job during the test is to hold your baby still on your lap. Do not turn or react to the toys or sounds that you hear! The audiologist needs to see how your baby responds to each part of the test.

We will try to book your appointment at a time of day when your baby doesn't usually nap. Bring a bottle/sippy cup or snacks that your baby enjoys to help keep your baby happy during the test.

Sometimes more than one appointment may be needed for the audiologist to gather all of the information we need about your baby's hearing. Your audiologist will talk to you at the end of your test about next steps.

Being a 'distractor'...

You may need to help with your baby's VRA test by being a 'distractor'. Your audiologist will let you know if they need your help.

A distractor helps keep your baby focused forward and ready to listen during the test. You will be asked to quietly hold toys in front of your baby to keep your baby looking towards the centre of the room while your audiologist completes the test. Your audiologist will provide you with the toys to use. Try not to let your baby touch the toys. Try to be as quiet as possible because the sounds we test are very soft! The key is to be interesting, but not too interesting and to provide social reinforcement! We need your baby to be listening during the test. Your audiologist will help you along the way.



See an example of a VRA test by following the QR code or visiting:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LK5ExH4KwBI>

If you have any questions before your baby's hearing test, please call us at **The Children's Treatment Centre of Chatham-Kent** at 519-354-0520.