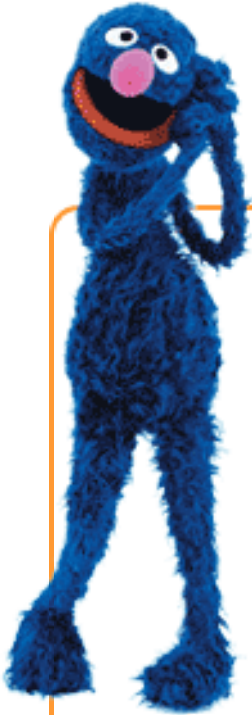




Sesame Family Newsletter

January 5, 2005

The nonprofit organization behind Sesame Street and so much more



For Parents

Big Brother, Little Sister

by *Jordan Brown*

Ring in the New Year with a new baby.

Featuring:

- [Olivia's Number One Fan](#)
- [Less Neurotic, More Chaotic](#)
- [Coo, Gurgle, Grunt...If You Know What I Mean](#)

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Games and More: Fun and Fuzzy

Too cold to play outdoors?

- [Super Grover in the Nick of Rhyme](#)
- [Snuffy's Safari](#)
- [Close-Up](#)
- [Weekly Trivia](#)

From the Workshop



[At this time of year, when people's thoughts turn to giving, please consider a tax-deductible gift to Sesame Workshop.](#)

Sesame Store



[Subscribe to Parenting and receive the award-winning Sesame Street Magazine free.](#)

 [Read all about it!](#)

Big Brother, Little Sister

OLIVIA'S NUMBER ONE FAN

Happy New Year to you and your family! In 2005, our family faces the thrills and challenges of raising both a preschooler and a newborn. It's hard to believe that only about five months ago my wife Ellen and I first informed our 3-year-old son Finn that he would soon have a baby sister.

Since many of Finn's nursery school friends have younger brothers and sisters, we had a hunch he'd feel comfortable with the idea of a sibling. Furthermore, while playing with his favorite doll D.W., he would often tell us, "I want a REAL baby. Let's buy one."

Last October, while the baby was busy kicking inside mommy, Finn got a big kick out of talking to his sister-to-be. He'd ask Ellen to open her mouth wide, and then yell inside it, "Hello, Baby Girl down there!" In November, our daughter Olivia was born, about a month ahead of schedule. Gratefully, both mom and baby are doing well. From the first day Finn met Olivia, he treated her with tenderness. He enjoys giving her gentle kisses, rubbing his cheek against hers, and sweetly saying, "I love you, Baby Girl!"



THEN AND NOW
[Parenting the second time around.](#)

TRUE OR FALSE?
[The truth behind seven of the most common baby myths.](#)

LESS NEUROTIC, MORE CHAOTIC

Whenever a problem arises with Olivia, we usually think "been there, done that" and handle it without stressing out. This was definitely not the case when Finn was a newborn. I remember how nervous Ellen and I were about caring for him. Neither of us knew that much about newborns. We were constantly checking the baby books to answer our endless questions. How do you support his head? What's the proper swaddling method? What's an effective way to burp a fussy baby?

Despite our being more laid back about caring for Olivia, we weren't prepared for the frenetic pace often involved with caring for two kids. Getting both of them to nap at the same time can seem impossible at times. So, when the going gets rough, or some newborn behavior stumps us, we find it useful to consult articles, books, and Web sites like the Sesame Workshop for tips as well as encouragement.



TRICKY TASKS, GREAT SOLUTIONS
[Baby-care secrets to help get you over those day-to-day hurdles.](#)

THANK YOU, DR. SPOCK
[Ten timeless messages from Dr. Spock about raising your baby.](#)

HAPPY, SAD, OR MAD?
[Find out how babies give signals of their emotional](#)

[state.](#)

**DRESSING AND
UNDRESSING YOUR BABY**
[Tips for a quick change of
clothes.](#)

HAVE BABY, WILL TRAVEL
[Suggestions for air and car
travel.](#)

**DIAPER BAG BASICS (0-6
MONTHS)**
[A checklist for new moms.](#)

COO, GURGLE, GRUNT...IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN

Now that Finn is a chatty 4 year old, it is difficult for Ellen and me to remember the time when all of his communication was nonverbal. For his first two and a half years, he didn't say a word (at least none that we could understand). Even his pediatrician identified him as a "late talker" and recommended he see a speech therapist. Now with Olivia, we're once again trying to interpret her variety of sounds. Looking into her eyes as she babbles to me, I wonder what she's thinking. Just as it's hard for me to imagine the time when Finn couldn't speak, it's equally unfathomable to know that in the coming year or so, we'll hear her say those magic words, "Mama•Dada."

Jordan Brown

Sesame Workshop



BABY TALK
[How your older child helps
teach the baby to speak.](#)

BABY TALK Q&A
[Get answers to questions
about how babies develop
language.](#)

PLAY: BIRTH TO TWO
[Learn about the games
baby's play.](#)

**BABY SIGNS ARE SIMPLE
AND SMART**
[Discover the benefits of
teaching your baby sign
language.](#)

Weekly Trivia

Which Sesame characters are named after the sounds they make?

- (A) The Bleepers
- (B) The Honkers
- (C) The Snappers
- (D) The Clappers

Honk! Honk! If you said (B), you're right!

FROM THE WORKSHOP

As you know, Sesame Workshop is a nonprofit educational organization. We depend on financial support from individuals like you, to produce meaningful, measurable, and lasting differences in children's lives. Whether it is to provide the resources needed to create content for the website or the weekly newsletter or to help produce a show that will convey messages of respect and understanding to children in the Middle East, your contribution will be put to use to benefit your child and children around the world. Making a gift to Sesame Workshop is quick and easy. And only a mouse click away.



[Support the Workshop today!](#)

COMMENTS? QUESTIONS?

[Tell us what's on your mind.](#) Kindly note that we are unable to respond to every email received.

ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

Sesame Workshop is a nonprofit educational organization making a meaningful difference in children's lives around the world. Founded in 1968, the Workshop changed television forever with the legendary Sesame Street. Today, the Workshop continues to innovate on behalf of children in 120 countries, using its proprietary research methodology to ensure its programs and products are engaging and enriching. Sesame Workshop is behind award-winning programs like Dragon Tales and Sagwa, The Chinese Siamese Cat, Pinky Dinky Doo and ground breaking multimedia productions in South Africa, Egypt and Russia. As a nonprofit, Sesame Workshop puts the proceeds it receives from sales of Sesame Street, Dragon Tales and Sagwa products right back into its educational projects for children around the world. Find the Workshop online at www.sesameworkshop.org