



Weekend Post
Saturday 10/07/2010

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Tried and tested

There are endless new products on the market for mothers and babies, but which ones actually make life easier?

Nature Within products contain skin nurturing oils such as avocado, evening primrose, calendula and shea butter, and there are no synthetic oils or fragrances, making it completely aroma-free.

I tested the baby moisturiser and

There's no shame in admitting that one of the perks of my job involves road-testing new products, and since my newborn arrived a month ago, I've had great fun trying out a number of things just for mum and baby.

■ ORGANIC SKINCARE

First up is a lovely range of skincare products for baby from Nature Within.

Developed by Australian aromatherapist and mother Nadine Hall, Nature Within products are made with natural, organic ingredients.

As baby skin is five times thinner than an adults, this means they are far more sensitive and can irritate easily.





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bottom balm. My newborn Paige had very dry, peeling skin in her first two weeks, so the moisturiser was applied every day.

It made her skin very soft and helped address the peeling problems. Now we keep it next to the bath and moisturise any dry patches when she's clean and relaxed. Mini massages have been fun for both of us.

The balm is a very nice, creamy texture and only a small amount needs to be applied to get the benefits of a rash-free bottom.

Just as my first-born reacted to disposable nappies, so has my second child, so we have already made the transition to cloth and are seeing a lot less nappy rash.

It's a handy little tub suitable to pop into the nappy bag or keep by the change table.

www.naturewithin.com.au

KITCHEN HELPER

The next product I tested is a surprisingly simple idea which works really well.

Qubies is an upside-down ice cube container which makes 30ml cubes.

Instead of filling individual cubes with baby puree, breast milk,



stock, lemon juice, coconut milk, pestos, water, wine or whatever liquid you need frozen, the design allows you to fill an entire tray, then snap on the lid which features non-stick silicon dividers.

You get eight cubes per tray and the secure lid eliminates any freezer burn or freezer smells.

Once the liquid is frozen, you can then store the individual cubes in a freezer bag, and reuse the Qubies for something else. Qubies also is dishwasher and steriliser safe.

Designed in Australia, Qubies comes in lime or aqua colour.

I tried the Qubies with passionfruit pulp, and later breastmilk.

Both times it was handy to have a maximum fill line to make sure I didn't put too much into the tray, and when frozen, the lid comes off very easily, leaving eight perfectly

frozen cubes.

www.qubies.com

STYLISH SHOPPING

There's no doubt that picking up fruit and veges at Rusty's Markets has become routine for hundreds of families in Cairns, but why not look the part as well?

The Market Basket Company has recreated gorgeous and very functional baskets which will replace your plastic or green bags.

They are hand made from strips of woven palm leaves sewn together and built up in "rounds" into the traditional triangle shape.

Moroccan leather is used to make the handles which come in either elbow length or shoulder length.

While they are traditionally used by the French to pick up fresh fruit and vegetables, bread, wine and flowers, they also can be used to carry a picnic, beach gear, gym gear or baby gear.

When I first gave it a go, I was amazed at

how much I could actually fit into my basket and was impressed at the number of people who took a second glance when I went out shopping.

The French market basket certainly has stylish appeal, but also is a really handy bag for all

