

## I Wish Someone Had Told Me...



Moms who have successfully breastfed their babies, can give great advice. Here are some of their gems.

### *Take a breastfeeding class before delivery*

Breastfeeding is a wonderfully natural thing to do, but learning how can help. Spend a little time learning about what happens after delivery. Many hospitals in China now offer classes to pregnant women. You can also read information and watch video lessons about breastfeeding on our website: [www.yunfuxuexiao.net](http://www.yunfuxuexiao.net).

### *Start breastfeeding right in the delivery room*

Your baby will be interested in feeding within a few minutes of birth. Keep him skin-to-skin and enjoy an early feeding.

### *It's all about the latch*

How your baby holds your nipple and areola in his mouth is the key to comfortable breastfeeding. Make sure he opens his mouth wide and he gets a big mouthful. If it hurts, get help as soon as possible!

### *Feed throughout the night at first*

No matter how tired or sore you are, you do need to feed around the clock in the beginning. This brings in an excellent supply of milk and assures you that your baby starts gaining weight quickly.

### *Babies cry more on their second day of life*

This can be upsetting and you might not know what to do to sooth your baby. Crying doesn't always mean hunger. Your baby may be cold, or too warm, or he might have a wet or dirty diaper, or he might just want to be close to you. Hold your baby skin-to-skin and offer the breast frequently. This fussiness is common and is called "Second Night Syndrome", although it can happen during the daytime also.

### *You don't need a breast pump right away*

Your newborn is the best pump and frequent feedings get breastfeeding off to a good start.

If a breast pump does become necessary for a medical reason, a lactation consultant (IBCLC) can give you advice about the best kind for your situation.



### ***Use it or lose it***

The best way to make more milk is to feed the baby. An empty breast makes more milk. Don't skip breastfeeding sessions in the early days.

### ***Don't wait too long to try a bottle***

Breastfeeding exclusively for the first 4-6 weeks gets breastfeeding off to a good start. But if you are planning on going back to work or need to give a bottle for some reason, start between 4-6 weeks and offer it weekly to keep the baby in practice.

The best milk to use in the bottle is your pumped milk. A breast pump can make that an easy thing to do.

If you are going to be home with your baby, you can skip this step.

### ***You might make too little or too much milk for your baby***

Feed often in the early days to get a good start. If your baby is not gaining weight well or you are overflowing with milk, get advice from a lactation consultant (IBCLC).

### ***Attend a breastfeeding moms group***

Just seeing other moms breastfeed and chat with them can be a world of reassurance.

The leader will likely be a lactation consultant who can answer questions and help you trouble shoot problems.

### ***Nurse lying down***

Recline with your baby "on top of you" or lie on your side while your baby feeds. Use pillows to get yourself and your baby comfortable. Moms need a little rest too.

Please be aware that the information provided is intended solely for general educational and informational purposes only. It is neither intended nor implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice. Always seek the advice of your physician for any questions you may have regarding your medical condition. Never disregard professional medical advice or delay in seeking it because of something you have received in this program.

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