



Parenting
Mom-Tested!

Best

Because you don't have three hands

The Deuter Kid Comfort I backpack carrier, at just over four pounds, is lighter than most, and its height-adjustable seat means you can tote kids up to 50 pounds. Thanks to the padded hip belt and vented back, you'll be comfy carrying it for as long as your little one stays happy up there. (\$160, 303-652-3102, www.deuterusa.com)

"I can't imagine life without this backpack. It allows me to get things done and be with my son. He loves the feeling of being so tall!"

—LAUREN CHENEVERT
MOM OF TYLER, 16 MONTHS, WORCESTER, MA

Photographs by Nedjeljko Matijura

outdoor gear

Does a simple trip to the park feel more like a cross-country trek because of all the stuff you have to lug? We found products that make it easier to get out and go, then asked moms to try them. Some spent a week at the beach and others stayed in their own backyard, but the consensus was clear: These are the ones you won't want to spend this summer without **by Meghan Rabbitt**

When you need some shade

With just a few twists of the wrist, the Kel-Gar Kids' Sun Dome pops up (and easily folds back into its own carrying case) to provide shelter from the sun—not to mention a fun hangout spot for naps and snacks. (\$35, 800-388-1848, www.keigar.com)



"I was surprised at how roomy it is, since it folds up so small. My baby isn't crowded in it, and it's so easy to open and close."

—HAREN CANN, MOM OF ETHAN, 9, JULIA, 5, AND ALEXANDER, 11 MONTHS ST. CLAIR SHORES, MI

Want to keep 'em in sight?

The Graco Pack 'n Play Sport is a stylish new version of the old standard, and it's much easier to open. Just take it out of its carrying case, expand the walls with one push, and secure the latches on either side. The padded, water-resistant floor makes for quick cleaning after a long day in the sand or dirt (you can hose it down and let it drip-dry), and the canopy—which provides UV protection—slips right into a hidden storage pocket. (\$150, 800-345-4109, www.gracobaby.com)

"I like that it's bigger than a regular Pack 'n Play, so my son doesn't feel too confined and stays content in it. Also, I didn't need help from my husband to put this together."

—MATT GILLIAM, MOM OF SCOTT, 12 MONTHS, DURHAM, NC



A bag that multitasks as well as you do

The Baby Sherpa Diaper Backpack not only has compartments for everything from your video camera to your car keys, there's also a sort-sided cooler at the bottom of the bag that can easily hold an afternoon's worth of drinks and snacks. Especially handy features are a detachable insulated bottle holder on the side and a bungee cord in the front—ideal for keeping wet bathing suits away from dry items. (\$89, www.keigar.com)

"This bag is perfect for day trips or overnight stays. I really like the cooler—I'm able to pack the girls' juice boxes, snacks, and even their dinners if I need to. And the compartments make it easy to find what I'm looking for right away."

—KIM HELE, MOM OF JULIA, 4, AND JESSICA, 23 MONTHS, SOUTHBOLD, NY >>



June 2006 Parenting 125

Parenting

530 Fifth Avenue, 4th floor
New York, NY 10036

phone **212.522.8989** / fax **212.522.4616**

The Parenting Group Inc.
An AOL Time Warner Company

May 12, 2004

Valerie Swanson
Baby Sherpa
Onyx Group International
605 Polo Drive
Wheaton, IL 60187

Dear Ms. Swanson:

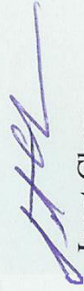
Congratulations! I'm pleased to inform you that **Baby Sherpa Diaper Backpack** has been selected as a *Parenting Mom-Tested!* pick in our June issue of *Parenting* magazine.

Our picks were evaluated by *Parenting's* own editors, then reality-tested by the toughest critics out there: moms across the country.

The June issue of *Parenting* will be on newsstands on May 18th. We'd like to invite you to display the *Parenting Mom-Tested!* seal on your product packaging. If you're interested, please call Jessica Vargas, at 212-522-3674.

Again, congratulations!

Sincerely,



Janet Chan
Editor in Chief