

# Assistive Technology:

## Tools to Help Your Child Learn and Play

**Assistive technology** devices help babies and toddlers in the Early Intervention Program play, learn and interact with others. Devices may be simple or complex. They include:

- ⦿ Hearing aids
- ⦿ Tools to help children talk and understand
- ⦿ Toys with lights and sounds for children who have trouble seeing
- ⦿ Special strollers, standers, walkers and braces for children with motor delays
- ⦿ Special spoons or cups that can help your child with everyday activities

## To learn more, talk to your Early Intervention therapist.

If you and your Early Intervention therapist agree that an assistive technology device may be right for your child and family:

- ⦿ With your written permission, a member of your Early Intervention team will contact your family doctor to get a prescription for each device.
- ⦿ Your team will then submit the request.
- ⦿ After Early Intervention staff approves the request, a vendor will work with you and your therapist to choose the right device for your child and fit it as needed.
- ⦿ Once you receive the device, the vendor and your Early Intervention therapist will teach you how to use it safely.

## Try out equipment to find what's best for your child.

Some devices can be very complex, but often the best device for your child can be very simple, like a spoon with a fat handle.

The United Cerebral Palsy of New York City TRAIID Center can help you learn about different assistive technology devices for free. Some of the items are even available to borrow and try out with your baby or toddler. Together with your therapist, or on your own, **you can contact the citywide TRAIID Center at 718-436-7979, ext. 711, or [techworks@ucpnyc.org](mailto:techworks@ucpnyc.org)** to talk about your needs or schedule an appointment to learn about devices.

