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16 Best Sunscreens for Kids & Babies Will Keep Them Safe on the Sunniest Days

by THERESA EDWARDS, TAMARA KRAUS, TAYLOR LANE JUNE 19, 2026 AT 12:53PM EDT



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and assigns them a safety rating. They take into account product packaging, each sunscreen’s usability, and the amount of harmful chemicals used in each product. For instance, EWG filtered out products containing ingredients it considers worrisome, such as formaldehyde-releasing chemicals.

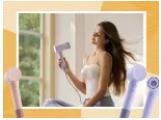
The watchdog nonprofit researches, scrutinizes, and tests hundreds of sun protection offerings with one goal: to tell consumers which sunscreens specifically marketed for use on babies and kids belong on children’s skin and which ones are better left on the shelf. Make sure to consult EWG’s findings before you buy, so you can confidently choose the safest sunscreen for your child.

Best Sunscreens for Kids & Babies at a Glance

- Best Overall:** [Mustela Baby & Family Mineral Sunscreen Lotion SPF 50 Broad Spectrum](#), \$18
- Best Runner Up:** [Shiseido Ultimate Sun Protection Lotion Broad Spectrum SPF 50+ WetForce for Sensitive Skin and Children](#), \$52
- Most Loved by Parents:** [La Roche-Posay Anthelios Kids Sunscreen](#), \$25
- Best for Sensitive & Eczema-Prone Skin:** [Pipette Mineral Sunscreen Broad Spectrum SPF 50](#), \$20 (originally \$25)
- Best Mineral Sunscreen:** [Babyanics Mineral-Based Sunscreen SPF 50](#), \$10
- Best SPF Stick:** [Sun Bum Baby SPF 50 Sunscreen Stick](#), \$11 (originally \$12)
- Best for On-The-Go Reapplication:** [Earth Mama Baby Face Mineral Sunscreen Stick SPF 40](#), \$28
- Best Derm-Approved Sunscreen:** [Aveeno Baby Continuous Protection Sensitive Skin Sunscreen SPF 50](#), \$16
- Best Sunscreen for Outdoors:** [Thinkbaby Mineral Sunscreen Lotion SPF 50](#), \$21
- Best Daily Sunscreen:** [Natu Botanicals Daily Natural Sunscreen](#), \$28



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What to Consider When Choosing a Sunscreen for Babies & Kids

Before choosing a sunscreen for your little one, keep a few factors in mind. Dermatologists say the most important factor is choosing a broad-spectrum formula that protects against both UVA and UVB rays. “For infants and young children, I always recommend mineral-based sunscreens because they sit on the skin rather than being absorbed into it, making them gentler and more suitable for delicate skin,” Los Angeles-based board-certified dermatologist, [Dr. Sandra Oska](#), MD, explains. “You also want to look for formulas that are fragrance-free, hypoallergenic, and specifically labeled for pediatric or baby use,” she adds.

Dr. Oksa points out that texture matters as well, since thicker creams tend to provide more reliable coverage than lightweight sprays, which can be unevenly applied. “Lastly, ease of reapplication is key because consistent use is what actually provides protection, especially during outdoor exposure,” she adds.



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Physical (Mineral) Sunscreens: Dr. Purvisha Patel, a board-certified dermatologist and MOHS and Cosmetic Surgeon at Visha Skincare, recommends looking for active ingredients such as zinc oxide or titanium dioxide. “These provide broad-spectrum protection by reflecting UV rays and are less likely to irritate sensitive skin. They are not absorbed into the bloodstream.”

Hypoallergenic Formulas: “Choose sunscreens labeled as hypoallergenic, as they are less likely to cause allergic reactions, Dr. Patel adds.

Fragrance-Free: Dr. Patel also urges seeking fragrance-free formulas. “Fragrances can irritate a baby’s delicate skin, so opt for products without added scents.”

On the flip side, there are a handful of ingredients to avoid.

Chemical UV Filter Ingredients: Board-certified dermatologist Dr. Debbie Palmer tells parents to avoid chemical UV filters like oxybenzone, avobenzene, and octinoxate, as they can be absorbed through a baby’s skin.

Irritants: “Also avoid potential irritants like fragrances and parabens, which can disrupt hormonal balance,” Dr. Palmer adds.

Why Can’t Babies Under 6 Months Use Sunscreen?

It’s not a myth that babies under 6 months shouldn’t use sunscreen; here’s why. “Babies under six months are not recommended to use sunscreen primarily because their skin barrier is still immature and more permeable than older children and adults,” Dr. Oska notes. This increases the potential for greater systemic absorption of active ingredients, even those considered generally safe. “At this age, the safest form of sun protection is strictly physical avoidance, such as shade, protective clothing, wide-brim hats, and limiting direct sun exposure.”

Dr. Oska says that if brief sun exposure is unavoidable, covering the skin with lightweight clothing is preferred over applying sunscreen. “The goal is to minimize UV exposure entirely rather than relying on topical protection in this very early stage of development.”

Before you put a bottle of sunscreen on, flip it over and check the ingredient list to make sure you aren’t rubbing an ineffective sunscreen with troublesome ingredients onto your child’s skin. We’ve taken EWG’s and dermatologists’ recs into account and rounded up [some of the best and safest sunscreens](#) available right now for your little one’s sensitive skin. Take a look, and play safe!

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A version of this article was originally published in May 2016.



Photo : Mustela

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Mustela Baby & Family Mineral Sunscreen Lotion SPF 50

The [Mustela Baby & Family Mineral Sunscreen Lotion SPF 50](#) takes the guesswork out of sun protection for little ones and is a parent favorite for good reason.

the ingredients commonly found in chemical sunscreens.

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Mustela Baby & Family Mineral Sunscreen Lotion SPF 50

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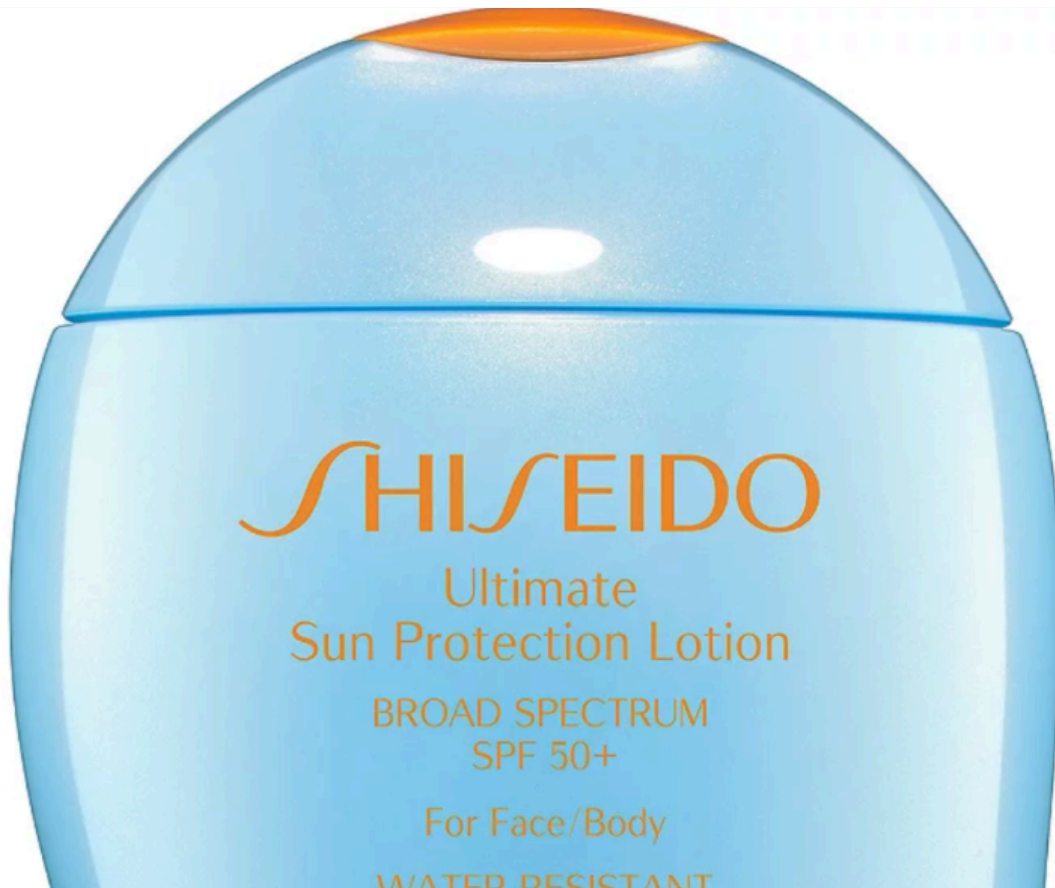




Photo : Shiseido.

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Ultimate Sun Protection Lotion Broad Spectrum SPF 50+ WetForce for Sensitive Skin and Children

Ulta Beauty's a great spot to stock up on trusted sun care for baby and yourself. This sensitive broad spectrum sunscreen with SPF 50 for children earns an [EWG score of 2](#), is water-resistant for up to 80 minutes, and is formulated with soothing aloe extract.

Shiseido Ultimate Sun Protection Lotion Broad Spectrum SPF 50+ WetForce for Sensitive Skin and Children

\$52

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Photo : La Roche-Posay

La Roche-Posay Anthelios Kids Sunscreen

La Roche-Posay Anthelios Kids Sunscreen is a reliable, dermatologist-recommended option. Developed with sensitive skin in mind, its broad-spectrum SPF 50 formula protects against both UVA and UVB rays while being gentle on children's delicate skin. The lightweight, water-resistant lotion is easy to apply and designed for active days at the beach, pool, or playground. Parents also appreciate that it is formulated without oxybenzone, offering trusted everyday family sun protection.

La Roche-Posay Anthelios Kids Sunscreen

\$25

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Photo : Pipette.

Pipette Mineral Sunscreen Broad Spectrum SPF 50

Supermodel Rosie Huntington-Whiteley is a fan of Pipette for her and her little one, so naturally, the brand's fragrance-free mineral sunscreen is one of our top picks. It's non-nano and EWG-certified, and suitable for the entire family.

Pipette Mineral Sunscreen Broad Spectrum SPF 50

\$20, was \$25

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Babyganics Mineral-Based Sunscreen SPF 50

Dr. Patel recommends the [Babyganics Mineral-Based Sunscreen SPF 50](#) for kids and babies. "This sunscreen uses a mineral filter and is free from harmful chemicals, making it safe for sensitive skin," she says. "It's also water-resistant, providing lasting protection during outdoor activities." The sunscreen features Zinc Oxide and Titanium Dioxide as its active ingredients, along with a plant-derived blend of tomato, sunflower, cranberry, black cumin, and raspberry seed oils for hydration.

Babyganics Mineral-Based Sunscreen SPF 50

\$10

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Photo : Image: Sun Bum

Sun Bum Baby SPF 50 Sunscreen Stick

Sun Bum's [baby sunscreen stick](#) received a 2 ranking from the EWG, meaning that it's a "yes" when it comes to safety for your little one. The formula offers a 100 percent mineral base recommended by dermatologists. The sunscreen stick is also convenient and makes applying sunscreen a breeze. Just roll the stick up and use it all over your baby's skin.

Sun Bum Baby SPF 50 Sunscreen Stick

\$11, was \$12

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Photo : Earth Mama

Earth Mama Baby Face Mineral Sunscreen Face Stick

This reef-safe face stick contains shea butter for nourishing the skin and calendula extract, which is antifungal and anti-inflammatory. The sunscreen stick is water-resistant for up to 40 minutes.

Earth Mama Baby Face Mineral Sunscreen Face Stick

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Photo : Aveeno

Aveeno Baby Continuous Protection Sensitive Skin Sunscreen SPF 50

Aveeno's Baby Mineral Sunscreen is "formulated with naturally sourced ingredients. This mineral sunscreen is gentle on the skin and provides broad-spectrum protection," Dr. Patel shares. It's also fragrance-free and hypoallergenic. The SPF 50 formula includes zinc oxide for broad-spectrum sun protection while remaining gentle on sensitive skin. It also contains soothing oat, a signature Aveeno ingredient known for helping support and comfort delicate skin.

CVS Deal: Buy 1, get 1 50% off sunscreen

Aveeno Baby Continuous Protection Sensitive Skin Sunscreen SPF 50

\$17

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Photo : Thinkbaby

Thinkbaby Mineral Sunscreen Lotion SPF 50

"ThinkBaby SPF 50, which provides broad-spectrum UVA/UVB protection using non-nano zinc oxide and is formulated without harmful chemicals commonly found in chemical sunscreens," Dr. Oska explains. "Its water-resistant formula and gentle, dermatologist-recommended ingredients make it a reliable choice for active babies and children with sensitive skin."

Thinkbaby Mineral Sunscreen Lotion SPF 50

\$21

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that is free from synthetic chemicals, fragrances, and preservatives, and it is water-resistant and has no white cast."

Natu Botanicals Daily Natural Sunscreen

\$28

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Photo : All Good.

All Good Kid's Sunscreen SPF 30

EWG's [five criteria for "good" sunscreens](#) include a look at potential safety or health hazards in a sunscreen's ingredient list, UVA protection, UVB protection, UVA/UVB balance and the sunscreen stability on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being the best possible ranking.

This lotion from All Good got a [scoring of 2](#).

All Good Baby & Kids Sunscreen Lotion

\$13.78, originally \$15.99

on Amazon.com

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Photo : Baby Bum.

Baby Bum SPF 50 Sunscreen Lotion

This fragrance-free mineral sunscreen with SPF 50 has an overall EWG rating of 2 and is water-resistant up to 80 minutes. You can have peace of mind knowing it's plant-based, non-nano and vegan too. Shop it in a face [stick](#), [spray](#) or [lotion](#).

Baby Bum Mineral Sunscreen Lotion SPF 50

\$13.99

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Photo : Raw Elements.

Raw Elements Sunscreen

This [derm-recommended](#) tin o' goodness has an [EWG rating of 1](#) and is water-resistant for more than an hour and is made with calendula, chamomile, sunflower and coconut for extra soothe factor. Babies, kids, and adults alike swear by it.

Raw Elements Baby + Kids SPF 30 Organic Sunscreen Lotion

\$20

on Amazon.com

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Photo : Attitude

Attitude Hypoallergenic Mineral Sunscreen SPF 30

Attitude's natural, [hypoallergenic sunscreens](#) are good for your skin and the environment. This one is [top-rated by EWG](#), unscented, so it's safe for baby's delicate skin, and the brand is climate-pledge friendly. Reminder: a high SPF isn't a guarantee, and if you're not applying sunscreen lotion 30 minutes before you hit the pool and every 60 minutes after that, you need to start.

Attitude Hypoallergenic Mineral Sunscreen SPF 30

\$27, was \$30

[BUY NOW](#)



Photo : TruKid

TruKid Sunny Days Sport Sunscreen SPF 30

So, to sum it up, a good sunscreen is going to have a broad range of protection with a moderate SPF, use a mineral-based formula and come in a lotion or stick form. Always do an ingredient check when you're scoping a new sunscreen, but if you want to save yourself some time and stock up on [TruKid Sport](#).

TruKid Sunny Days Sport Sunscreen SPF 30

\$22

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Photo : Blue Lizard

Blue Lizard Baby Mineral Sunscreen Stick SPF 50+

“One of my top recommendations is [Blue Lizard Baby Mineral Sunscreen](#) because it uses zinc oxide as its primary filter and is specifically formulated without fragrance or harsh additives, making it very well tolerated in pediatric populations,” Dr. Oska says.

This SPF stick also received a two ranking from the EWG. It’s sweat and water-resistant — plus, it’s also paraben-free, fragrance-free, dye-free, and 100% vegan.

Blue Lizard Baby Mineral Sunscreen Stick SPF 50+

\$9

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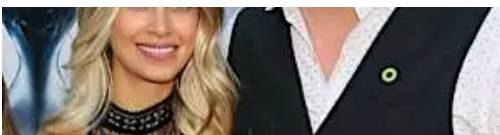
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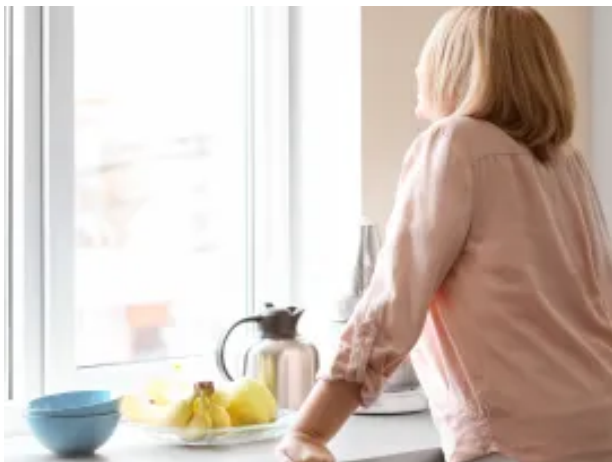
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