

# #BabyBuzz



Guess who we're following online this month...

## MEET THE BLOGGER

**Owner of Mommy and Baby Approved**  
([mommyandbabyapproved.co.za](http://mommyandbabyapproved.co.za))

Olerato enjoys the simple things in life, like spending time with her partner and daughter, trying to craft, and watching movies at home. On weekdays, she's a process engineer and while life can be exhausting, she wouldn't have it any other way.

**I really enjoy writing...** and sharing ideas and stories with people – especially if those stories can help someone. Blogging has been able to fulfil these things. Truthfully, it wasn't until I had my now three-year-old that I even considered blogging. I was at home by myself with a newborn, and while she slept, I needed to keep busy. Another push came when I was trying to figure out how I could heal my cracked nipples caused by breastfeeding. I discovered this wonderful blogging community while searching for answers online, and it made me want to start a blog even more. It took almost two years before I actually took the plunge, but I've never looked back.

**My beauty routine is simple...** I cleanse my face and moisturise. I always apply brow pencil, eyeliner, mascara and face powder. On a good day, I use eyeshadow, but it's not compulsory. The same goes for lipstick – I don't always have time to apply it, so I keep tinted lip balm in my bag. It's a lifesaver.

**We recently took a road trip with our daughter, visiting seven countries in two weeks...** I thought it was going to be stressful, but turned out to be the opposite. It's actually easy to travel with a toddler – most kids are content to be with their parents irrespective of where they are, while we're the ones who stress. My advice is to make sure your little one is comfortable in the car seat and in her clothes. Take regular breaks and encourage your child to walk around – call it a "picture-taking" break, as kids are always game to take pictures. Most importantly, listen to your child. Let her have a voice on the trip. It

will make for fewer tears and tantrums, and definitely a happier travel buddy.

**This year, we're all about playing...** Worrying is taking a number and joining the queue, because I'm aiming to be in the moment with my daughter. Currently, pretend play is a hit. My little one enjoys playing doctor while I'm the patient. She also likes playing "mom", which is fantastic because I use the game as a mirror and try to improve my parenting where necessary. Pretending is a fun way for us to play, encourage her imagination, and learn from each other.

**Don't be too hard on yourself as a mom...** You may think you're doing it all wrong, but chances are you aren't. As long as your little one still wears a smile on her face, you're doing great.

**These Easter holidays...** We plan to go camping in the Drakensberg.

## YOU'VE GOT TO KNOW ABOUT...

**The Smart Toy Club | [smarttoyclub.co.za](http://smarttoyclub.co.za)**

Is your little one bored of the selection in his toy box? Are you tired of the clutter new toys create? The Smart Toy Club is a monthly toy rental subscription service for children between six months and five years of age. Simply sign up and either collect the bag of toys or have it delivered before returning it after a month's worth of play. The service starts from R249 per month.



## DIGITAL SUPERSTARS

**On Pinterest...**

**Alpha Mom**

Think of this as a Pinterest support group for moms. The philosophy is that parenting is messy and magical, and we're all in it together.

**On Instagram...**

**@bevcooks**

Mom of twin toddlers, Bev Weidner, is also a food blogger, so in between the cute factor you'll find delicious meal inspiration on her feed.

**On Twitter...**

**@reasonsmysoniscrying**

Parents from all over the world submit posts on the "completely logical reasons that children cry". It always makes sense, doesn't it?



**APP OF THE MONTH**

**YouTube Kids app**

*Free on iTunes and Android*

Small kids seem to have a knack for going on screen devices and changing your password, finding their favourite video and sending photos to your WhatsApp groups. With this in mind, YouTube has launched an app for kids, which filters out any inappropriate content and prevents your little ones from logging in to its service, while offering fun videos, playlists and a host of other family-friendly entertainment. **I&I**