

talking with people about cloth diapers

Every new parent has to make decision about diapering. We feel that it is important for them to be educated about their choices.

You are the right person to educate them.

Think about how you will approach people and what you will say. Start with a simple conversation.

Remember that many people want to hear what you have to say. But, if someone does not want to discuss cloth diapers, do not persist.

**change
starts
with you!**

To join, go to:

www.realdiaperassociation.org

For more information, check out our website at: www.realdiaperassociation.org

**REAL DIAPER
ASSOCIATION**
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advocacy:

getting the word out

Talking to individuals

Where to outreach

Determining your goal

Advocacy ideas beyond the individual

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Real babies. real diapers.

think before you talk

Determine your goal. Are you looking to educate people about their choices? Do you want them to attend your local Real Diaper Circle meetings? Maybe you just want to listen to their needs and answer their questions. Before you venture out to talk to someone, it helps to have your goal clear in mind.

Remember to appeal to each person's self-interest. Talk to them about their situation and work with them to decide why cloth is the right choice for them. You may use cloth for environmental reasons, and they may need to focus on their economic situation. Be careful not to assume that everyone will choose to use cloth diapers for the same reasons that you have.

Practice. Explain the goals of the Real Diaper Association to anyone who will listen -- your friends, your family, your dog. That way you will become comfortable with these goals. When you mention RDA to a parent or parent-to-be, you will be prepared to explain RDA.

Remember to listen. It is important to talk to others about cloth diapers, but it is also important to listen. What are their reasons for using throw-away diapers? Have they tried cloth? What are their biggest concerns? If you cannot answer a question, direct them to your local Real Diaper Circle Leader or to the Real Diaper Association.

Do not be afraid to ask people to join Real Diaper Association. The only way we will grow is by word of mouth!

advocacy ideas beyond the individual

There are many ways that a Real Diaper Circle can work to advocate for cloth diapers. The possibilities are endless.

- * Work with local businesses to raise money to sponsor a local family who cannot afford diapers.
- * Talk to your community hospital and help them find ways to use cloth.
- * Make appointments at day-care centers to talk with caregivers about using cloth.

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Where to reach out

Doctor's or Midwife's office. This is a perfect place to talk to people who need information about cloth diapering.

Booths at Fairs. Baby fairs, craft fairs, Earth Day fairs, green festivals, and any place where you can get a booth are wonderful opportunities to discuss cloth diapering.

Birth teachers and birth centers. These are people who interact with babies and parents daily. Not only do they need to be educated about cloth diapers, their clients deserve to have an educated teacher.

Daycare Centers. Many centers have misconceptions about cloth diapers. This is a great place to reach out because many parents come to daycare centers on a daily basis, and the providers need to have accurate information.

Parent Classes and Groups. Classes are often a concentrated group of parents who are interested in learning about their babies -- a perfect audience!

Alternative Health Professionals. Like doctors and midwives, alternative health professionals work with families, and their clients ought to have this information.

Baby Equipment Shops. Many shops do not sell cloth diapers, or they may sell poor quality ones. Where better to find parents and babies?

Grocery Stores and Health Food Shops. People here may be shopping for plastic disposable diapers. Now is a great time to tell them about cloth diapers.

The Playground. This is a great place where you can find many parents, children, and lots of diapers being changed!