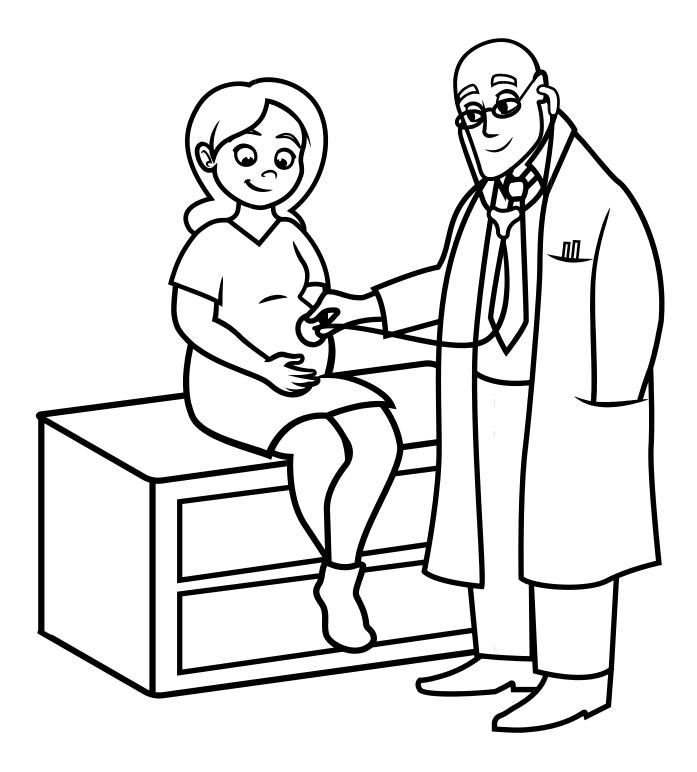




This story is all about you, your new baby and how a Super Sibling was born!



Sometimes babies come earlier than their families planned. And some babies need special medicine after they are born.



This is the hospital. This is where your new baby is, in a special place called the NICU.



Sometimes families wonder why this happened to them. Did you ask this question? Nothing anyone did or said caused this. Some babies need more help than others and are not ready to go home yet.



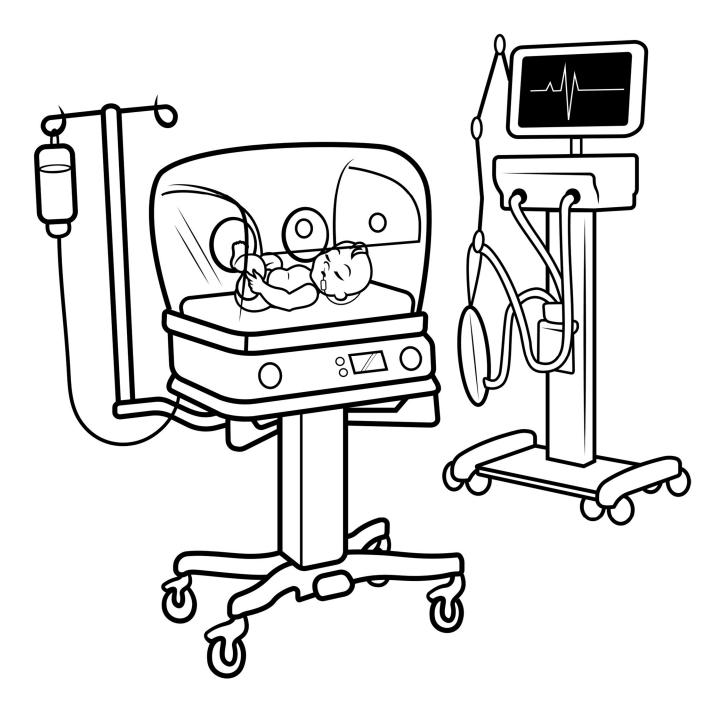
The NICU is a special place for these babies. Some stay for only days. Other babies need to stay for a long time before they can go home.



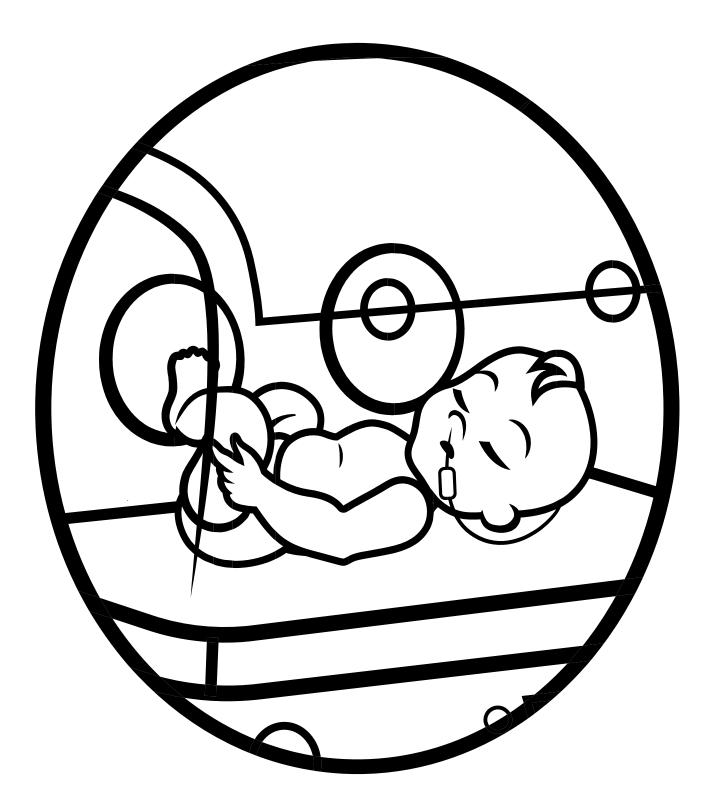
Wash your hands to protect your baby

- when you visit
- before you touch the baby

Babies in the NICU can get sick very easily, so help keep germs away.



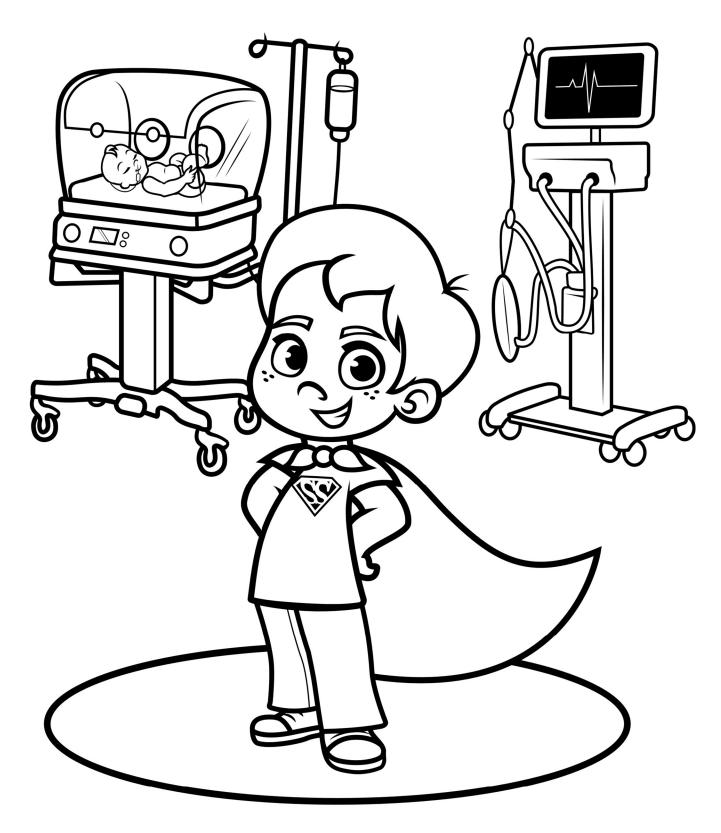
Most of the babies are in special beds called isolettes which keep them nice and warm. They also have something that looks like a TV beside them. This tells their nurse about your baby's heart and breathing.



Some babies have other things attached to them. Some tubes give babies food or medicine. Special masks help babies breathe.

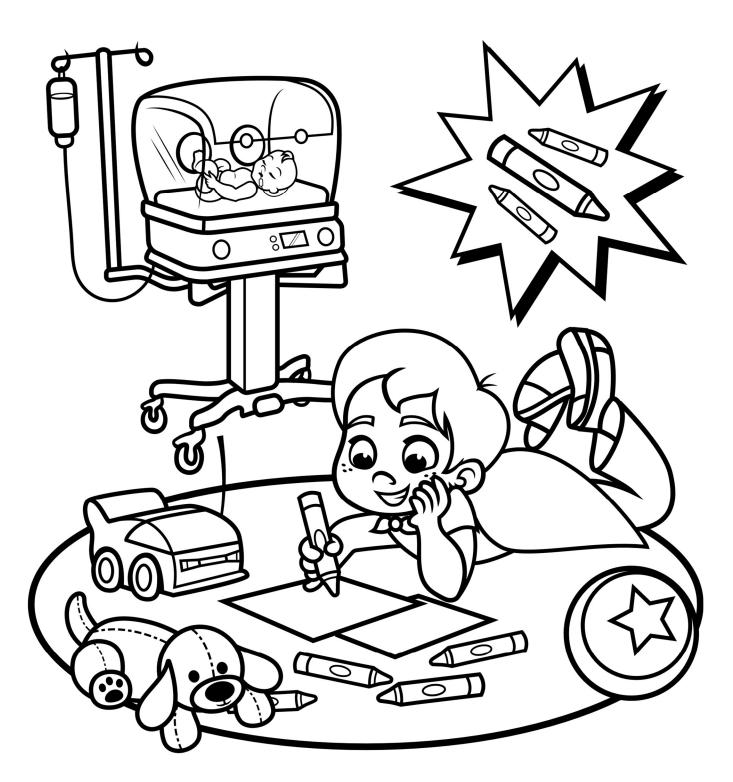


The NICU is quiet most of the time because babies don't like a lot of noise. Sometimes the machines make loud noises and beeps. These sounds help the nurses care for your baby.

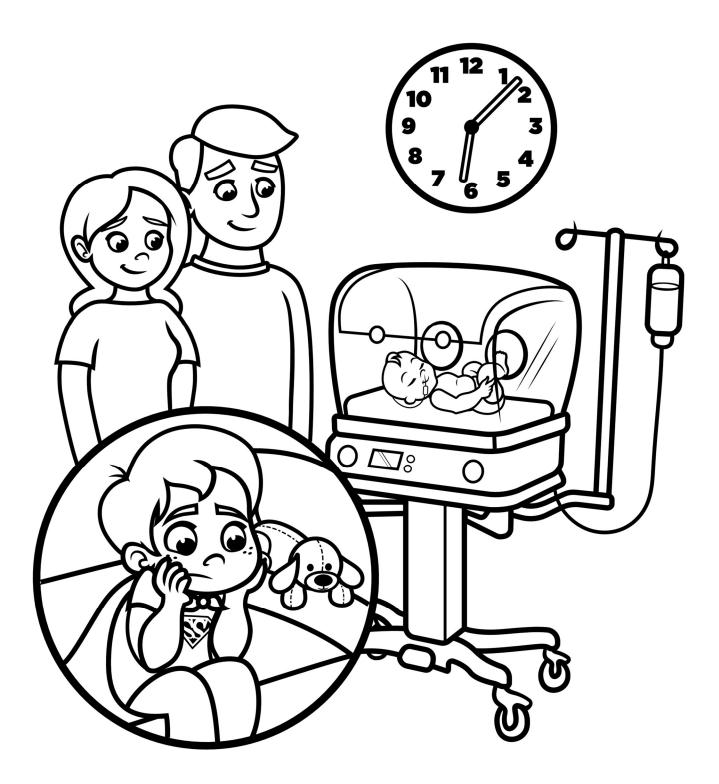


Did you know?

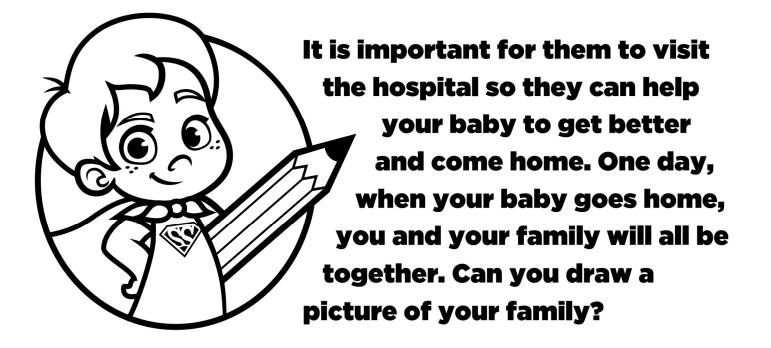
When your baby was born, you turned into a NICU Super Sibling!



Your baby can't talk or smile yet. But they are so happy to have you here. They love their Super Sibling coming, telling them stories about their family, and drawing pictures for them. It's a very important job!



Parents need to spend a lot of time with the baby in the NICU. You may miss having them at home. They love you as much as ever and miss you too.



Inspired by and Adapted from: St. Michael's Super Sibling Colouring Book 30 Bond Street Toronto, ON M58 1W8 Canada Authors: Amanda Hignell and Jeanette Doherty Illustrator: Marcell Silles www.stmichaelshospital.com

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