

Folk remedies for Earaches

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Someone asked what they could use for an earache in a small child, and the following are examples of suggested home remedies. Use with care, and exercise caution as always with home care.

The first recommended solution to the problem is to crush a few pieces of garlic clove up, and place it in a small amount of Olive Oil. Get the mixture warm just enough so it is not cold in the ear. Be careful not to get it too hot. Strain the cloves of garlic out of the mixture and then put a few drops of this garlic oil into the child's ear. Cover the ear with a warm washcloth. Alternately, you could place a small amount of fresh crushed garlic into gauze and swab the child's ear with mineral oil or baby oil. Next, place the

gauze inside the ear, and within a few hours the pain should be gone. It is recommended that one leave the gauze in the ear for eight hours, or overnight before removing it.

It has also been suggested that rice be sewed into a cotton tube sock, and let the child lay down on it with her ear on the sock.

One of the more unusual remedies which I have chanced upon is the one where a person suggests that you have the child pee into a cup, and then place several drops into the child's ear. It is also thought that the urine should be a healthy person's pee as the children may have an infection in it. Weird as this one may sound; I have heard that a person's urine can possibly heal various ailments. The main idea of this is that the urine would be of the proper body temperature to use, and it would contain valuable body salt in its composition.

One of the old wife's tales that I was introduced to as a child was the use of smoke. The theory was to have someone who smokes blow smoke into the child's ear. Personally, it has never worked for me as a child.

Another popular notion is the use of Sweet oil. By definition sweet oil is a mild vegetable oil frequently used as a food source. Oils are typically olive, or edible rape oil. It has been said that this Sweet oil work great towards relieving an earache. It certainly sounds better than the pee in my opinion.

Now here is definitely an older folk remedy presented for consideration. Many people especially the mountain folks remember how as a child their father would take and cut a branch from a nearby persimmon tree and stick one end of the branch into the stove. They would then let the juice from the branch fall into a teaspoon. The father would allow the liquid to cool until it was just warm to the touch, and pour into the child's ear. Some claim that it did in fact help, however I would suggest that it was actually the heat of the liquid that helped more so than the liquid itself.

Another tale claims that warm salty water will cure that aching ear quickly.

To the Native American's the bear is a powerful native totem animal. They are appreciated for their size, strength and intelligence. Since bears are traditionally thought of as very strong and defensive of their young, they are usually reasoned as a totem for protection. Bear oil has a brown, musky, earthy, rich, and wild odor to it. Although these are traditionally thought of as Native American Magical liquids many have found to be especially useful for clearing earaches. These oils are usually sold in beautiful round 1/2-ounce bottles, and blended with 100% jojoba oil. Their prices are rather steep, but according to the Legends it is next to a miracle ointment.

In any case, do what you feel is proper and above all think of what you do before you do it. Make sure the remedy you will use is not going to make the situation worse. Do some homework and never take one person's word that it is safe.