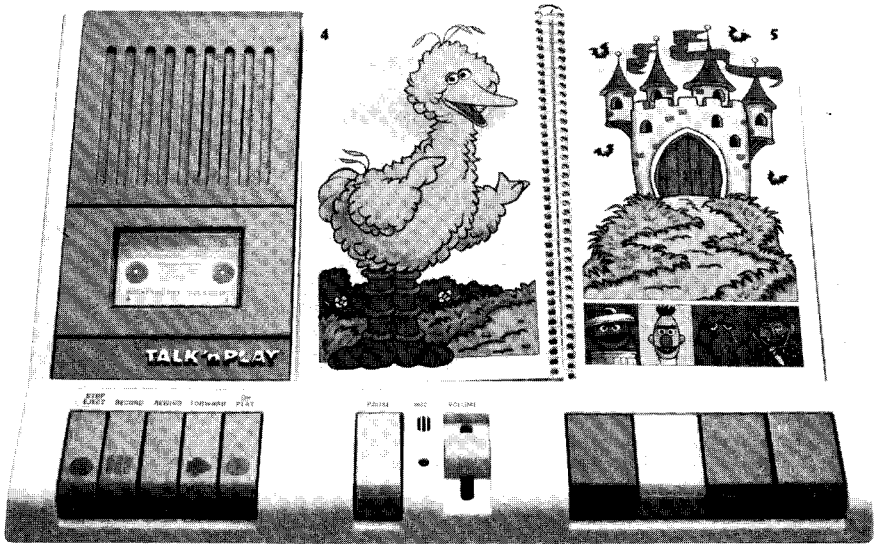




Electronic  
**Talk 'n Play**®  
LEARNING SYSTEM

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS**



**NOTE TO PARENTS:** Talk 'n Play® has been designed and manufactured to be an excellent electronic education and entertainment system. In addition, it is also a quality tape player and recorder when used with standard cassettes.

In order that your child get the most out of Talk 'n Play, we recommend that you first read this entire manual to fully understand all the features and operating instructions. Then, we suggest that you sit with your child to carefully explain and practice the use of the unit.

And when you begin to use the special interactive Activity Tapes and Books available for Talk 'n Play, we suggest that you play along with the child until he or she has learned the operation and play by heart. This practice, especially with younger children, will help insure that they get the fullest and most rewarding experience from the system. For example, reminding the child to listen carefully for all "turn page" instructions on the tape will help to make the sessions go smoothly.

Of course, the beginning of each Talk 'n Play Activity Tape contains simple verbal instructions and includes a practice session too.

## SECTION 1

### TALK 'N PLAY® FEATURES AND CONTROLS

**Note:** Press these buttons one at a time only.

1 **STOP/EJECT:** Press to stop the tape. Press down further once again to open the cassette DOOR.

2 **RECORD:** One-button recording. Simply press to record on a standard blank tape. Unit will automatically stop at end of tape.

**Note:** Talk 'n Play Tapes will only play on one side—**LABEL SIDE UP**—and cannot be recorded over. They will not work correctly on standard tape players.

3 **REWIND:** Press and hold to rapidly rewind tape toward beginning. Release at desired location to stop.

4 **FORWARD:** Press and hold to rapidly advance tape toward the end. Release at desired location to stop.

5 **ON/PLAY:** Press to play a tape. Unit will automatically stop at end of tape.

6 **PAUSE:** Push to temporarily stop the tape. Push AGAIN to re-start tape. Used with Talk 'n Play tapes to give a child time to think about his or her answers.

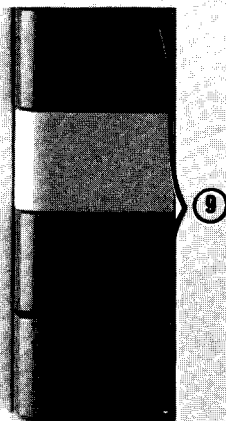
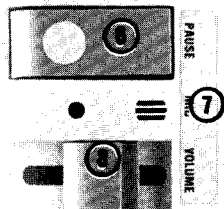
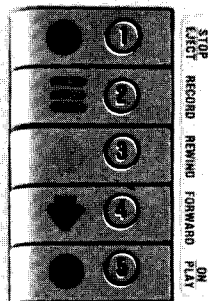
7 **MIC:** Sensitive built-in microphone for making "live" recordings.

8 **VOLUME:** Slide UP to play louder, DOWN to play softer. Works only when "PLAY" button is pressed.

9 **ANSWER BUTTONS** (left to right: Green, Yellow, Red, Blue): An Answer Button is pressed in response to a verbal instruction from the Activity Tape, according to a color-coded set of choices in the Activity Book.

**NOTE: WHEN USING TALK 'N PLAY ACTIVITY TAPES, ANY ONE ANSWER BUTTON MUST BE FIRMLY PRESSED IN ORDER FOR THE UNIT TO PLAY.** For a complete explanation of playing the Talk 'n Play Interactive System, see the section "Playing with Talk 'n Play Tapes."

**NOTE: WHEN PLAYING STANDARD CASSETTES, BOTH THE RED AND BLUE BUTTONS MUST BE PRESSED FIRMLY** to hear the recording as it was intended to sound and to insure proper playback of a recording that you have made.



## SECTION 2

### INSTALLING THE BATTERIES

FOUR "D" CELL BATTERIES REQUIRED (NOT INCLUDED).

Alkaline Batteries Recommended.

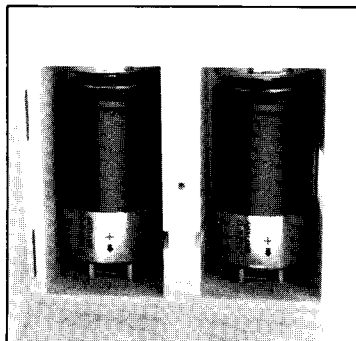
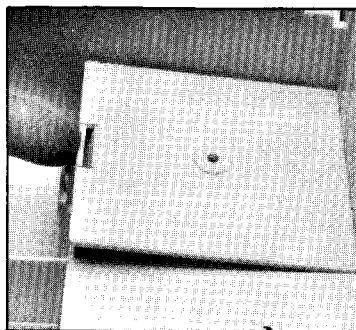
BATTERY COMPARTMENT is located in STORAGE COMPARTMENT on right side (see Section 10, step 3).

1. Remove SCREW, press LATCH and lift open BATTERY COMPARTMENT DOOR as shown. Install 4 "D" CELL BATTERIES as shown.

**IMPORTANT: OBSERVE BATTERY POLARITY.**

2. To replace BATTERY DOOR, insert TABS on DOOR into SLOTS on unit. Press on DOOR to latch, replace SCREW. Note: Do not overtighten SCREW.

3. To connect an AC ADAPTOR (not included see section 10), first insert the adaptor's unit (output) plug into the AC ADAPTOR JACK on the side of the unit. Then plug the adaptor's wall plug into an AC outlet.



## SECTION 3

### ABOUT CASSETTE TAPES

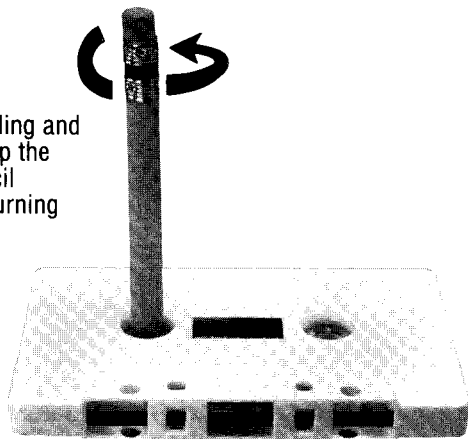
**Note:** The following comments apply only to the use of standard blank cassettes.

As with many tape recorders, Talk 'n Play will work best using cassette tapes with up to 60-minute total playing time ("C-60," or 30 min. per side). Tapes of longer length tend to have thinner tape material and provide a lower level of performance and a higher risk of tape breaks, stretches and tangles. C-120 tapes are especially prone to these conditions and should not be used. Use any high-quality tape except METAL or CHROMIUM DIOXIDE formulations, which are special-application tapes clearly labeled as such.

## SECTION 4

### TAPE TANGLING

To prevent a loosened tape from unraveling and causing a risk of tangling in use, wind up the tape before each use by inserting a pencil through one of the hubs and manually turning one reel in the direction shown.



## SECTION 5

### PREVENTING ACCIDENTAL ERASURES

Every blank cassette has removable tabs on the edge of the shell opposite the open face of the tape. Removal of the tab prevents accidental erasure or recording over a recording you wish to save. Hold the cassette with the open side away from you and the side of the tape you wish to protect against erasure facing UP. Break off the tab on the right side. To protect the side of the cassette facing DOWN, break off the tab on the left.

**NOTE:** Talk 'n Play Tapes already have the tabs removed to prevent accidental erasure.

## SECTION 6

### INSERTING A CASSETTE

1. Press STOP/EJECT to open cassette DOOR.
2. To insert a Talk 'n Play Tape. With the label facing UP and the open edge of the tape facing you, slide the cassette into the holder on the cassette DOOR. Note: If the label is facing down, the Talk 'n Play Tape will play backwards. To insert standard cassette: Insert cassette as above, with label for the side you wish to play facing up.
3. Close DOOR. If DOOR does not easily close, remove and re-insert cassette.
4. Always store cassettes without rewinding them after the last use. Rewind before each use by pressing and holding REWIND until beginning of tape or desired location is reached. **NOTE:** When fully rewound (that is, at the beginning of the side), all tape will appear on left side reel when cassette is viewed through window on DOOR.

## SECTION 7

### PLAYING WITH TALK 'N PLAY® TAPES

**Note:** Explain to your child not to unravel the tape before use (see "Tape Tangling"). For younger children or those not familiar with the unit, use your judgment before allowing the child to load and use the tape.

1. INSERT TALK 'N PLAY CASSETTE WITH LABEL SIDE UP. Note: Talk 'n Play Activity Tapes are playable in one direction only. Do not play unlabeled side. If unlabeled side is played, backwards sound will result, but this will not harm the tape or unit. Close cassette DOOR.

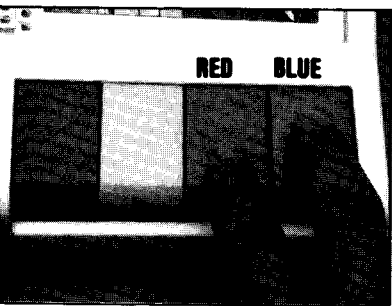
2. Press REWIND to rewind tape to beginning (left side reel of cassette full).

**3. IMPORTANT: PRESS ANY ONE SOLID COLOR ANSWER BUTTON ON RIGHT SIDE OF UNIT TO ACTIVATE SOUND.** Remember, if there is no sound when playing a Talk 'n Play Tape, it is most likely because no Answer Button is depressed.

4. Open the Talk 'n Play BOOK to the first spread and place it on top of the UNIT on the right side. Be sure the book fits snugly on the unit so that the color matching sections on the bottom of the right-hand page line up with their matching ANSWER BUTTONS on the unit.

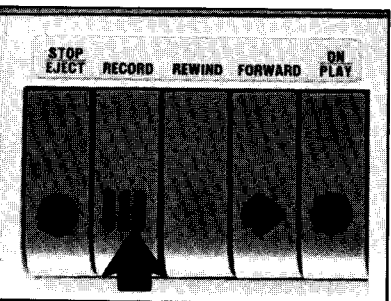


5. Press **PLAY** to play the tape. Adjust **VOLUME** to desired level. The beginning of each tape contains general instructions in the form of a "practice session." The child will be directed to press each of the Answer Buttons in sequence (Green, Yellow, Red, Blue) and will hear a voice confirming that the proper color button has been pushed. Or, it will gently correct the child in the event of an incorrect choice. (This will be the pattern throughout the tapes, except when the choices involve the child's preferences rather than "right or wrong" answers.)
6. For most interactions, color-coded choices, each corresponding to the color of an Answer Button, will appear on the right-hand page of the book, each directly above the key of the same color. On the tape, a voice will ask the child to push the Answer Button that matches the color of his or her choice.
7. The voice will also prompt the child to practice the use of the Pause Button (see "Features & Controls" section 1: number 6). The Pause Button is used to allow the child time to think about his or her answers. When the Pause Button is pushed once, the tape will stop. Remember, the Pause Button must be pushed *again* to re-start the tape.
8. A voice on the tape will also prompt the child to turn the page at the proper time. *Remind the child to listen carefully for the "turn page" instructions to prevent him or her from getting "lost."*
9. With younger children, it is recommended that the parent play along through an entire tape and book at least once, to insure that the child understands the operation of the unit and the play features of the Activity Tape & Book.
10. To end a Talk 'n Play session, press **STOP** to stop the tape and turn the unit off. Store the book and cassette inside the unit.



## SECTION 9

### TO RECORD ON A TAPE



## SECTION 8

### PLAYING A STANDARD TAPE

**NOTE: WHEN PLAYING STANDARD CASSETTES (INCLUDING YOUR OWN RECORDINGS), BOTH THE RED AND BLUE ANSWER BUTTONS MUST BE DEPRESSED SIMULTANEOUSLY.**

1. Press **PLAY**.
2. Adjust **VOLUME** to desired level.
3. To temporarily stop playing without pressing **STOP**, press **PAUSE**. Press **PAUSE** again to resume playing. **NOTE:** Do not use **PAUSE** to stop tape for long periods of time or when unit is not in use. Always press **STOP** before ending a recording or playing session.

1. Face front of unit toward sound source at a distance of 1 to 12 feet.
2. Press **RECORD**.
3. To temporarily stop recording without pressing **STOP**, press **PAUSE**. Press **PAUSE** again to resume recording. **NOTE:** Do not use **PAUSE** to stop tape for long periods of time or when unit is not in use. Always press **STOP** before ending a recording or playing session.

## SECTION 10

### OTHER FEATURES

1. AC Adaptor Jack: for use with standard AC adaptors of good quality (such as Radio Shack #273-1454 or equivalent).

Power Ratings: Input 115V AC 60 Hz, Output 6.0 V DC 150 MA,

Plug Size: coaxial type plug 5.5 mm O.D. x 2.1 mm I.D.

NOTE: Use of improper AC adaptor may cause damage to unit and affect warranty coverage. Insert AC adaptor jack into unit before inserting wall plug into AC outlet.

NOTE: Unit will not operate if unit plug is inserted and wall plug is not, even if batteries are installed.

2. Earphone Jack: for use with standard earphone. Plug Size: 3.5 mm. Inserting the earphone plug into the unit jack will disconnect the speaker for private listening.

3. Storage compartment: Pull LATCH to open. Use to store tapes, books, and this Instruction Manual for future reference.

4. Carry Handle: On bottom of unit, for easy carrying.

LATCH



## SECTION 11

### MAINTENANCE

Maintaining your Talk 'n Play unit is quite easy and will result in the best performance throughout its life.

#### Cleaning

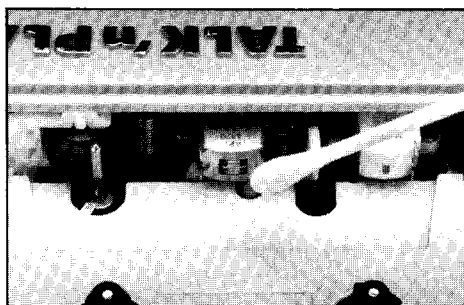
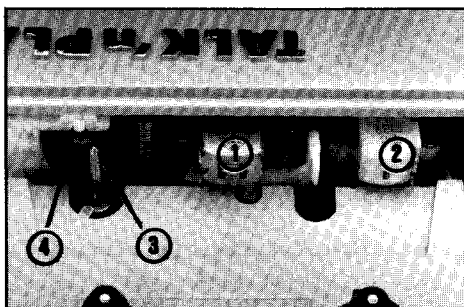
Heads ① & ② Capstan ③ and Pinch Roller ④ must be kept clean.

After every 10 hours of use, clean these parts using either:

1) *Cassette Cleaner* available commercially. Follow instructions with the cleaning cassette.

b) *Swab & Alcohol*: Note: Always remove batteries and unplug AC adaptor before following this procedure.

Open cassette door, press PLAY. Use a cotton swab moistened with alcohol to gently clean dirt and dust from numbers ①, ②, ③ and ④ in illustration. Press STOP. Replace batteries.



## SECTION 12

### OWNER'S CHECKLIST

**Condition:** Does not play or record

**Probable cause:**

Weak batteries

Batteries installed incorrectly

If using AC adaptor, adaptor is plugged into unit but not into wall.

**Corrective action:**

Replace all batteries with new alkaline batteries.

Remove and re-install batteries as shown in battery compartment.

Check AC adaptor plugs.

**Condition:** No sound but motor runs

**Probable cause:**

Playing Talk 'n Play tapes: **BUTTON MUST BE DEPRESSED OR NO SOUND WILL RESULT.**

Playing standard tapes and your own recordings: **BOTH RED AND BLUE ANSWER BUTTONS MUST BE DEPRESSED.**

Weak batteries

Batteries installed incorrectly

**Corrective action:**

Firmly press **ANY ONE ANSWER Button.**

Firmly Press **BOTH RED and BLUE Answer Buttons** simultaneously.

Replace all batteries with new alkaline batteries.

Remove and re-install batteries as shown in battery compartment.

**Condition:** Distorted or fuzzy sound

**Probable cause:**

Weak batteries

Batteries installed incorrectly

Dirty heads, capstan, pinch roller

**Corrective action:**

Replace all batteries with new alkaline batteries.

Remove and re-install batteries as shown in battery compartment.

Clean as described in "Maintenance" section

**Condition:** Garbled or backward sound on standard recordings

**Probable cause:**

**INCORRECT ANSWER BUTTONS ARE DEPRESSED**

**Corrective action:**

Firmly depress **BOTH RED and BLUE Answer Buttons** simultaneously.

**Condition:** Garbled sound with Talk 'n Play tapes

**Probable cause:**

More than 1 Answer Button depressed

Tape inserted upside-down (label side down)

**Corrective action:**

Press **ANY ONE Answer Button.**

Play tape with label side UP.

**Condition:** Tape unravels, tangles in drive mechanism

**Probable cause:**

Batteries inserted incorrectly.

**Corrective action:**

Remove and re-install batteries as shown in battery compartment.

**Condition:** Play and record button won't work with tape in place

**Probable cause:**

Wrong tape type

**Corrective action:**

Do not use Metal or Chromium Dioxide tapes.

Pause button is down

Push Pause button to release

**Condition:** Record button won't work with tape in place

**Probable cause:**

Tape is record-protected

**Corrective action:**

Use another cassette with record tabs intact.

Pause button is down

Push Pause button to release

**Condition:** ANY OTHER PROBLEMS

CALL HASBRO AND ASK FOR CONSUMER SERVICE AT:

Tel. # 1-800-237-0063

## SECTION 13

### SPECIFICATIONS

Tape System: Cassette. 4-track

Tape Speed: 4.75 cm/sec. (1 7/8 ips)

Wow and Flutter: 0.6%

#### Record/Playback

Sensitivity: -67dbm @ 1 kHz

Crosstalk: 35db min. @ 1 kHz

Frequency response: 1-10 kHz

#### Playback:

Sensitivity: -70.5dbm + 3db @ 315 Hz

Frequency response: 315 Hz-10KHz

Power Requirements: 150 mA @ 6 V, supplied by 4 new "D" Cell Alkaline Batteries.

**NOTE:** avoid exposing unit or cassette tapes to extremes of temperature, such as storing them in automobiles or in direct sunlight in hot weather, or exposing them to frigid winter conditions.

**Recommended Operating Temperatures:** +50°F to +104°F (+10°C to +40°C)

**Recommended Storage Temperatures:** -14°F to +140°F (-10°C to +60°C)

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Assembled in U.S.A. Components from Japan, Hong Kong or Taiwan.

U.S. Patent No. 4,078,316 U.S. Design Pat. Pending.

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