Your child is exposed to thousands of germs every day in his environment. This happens through the food he eats, air he breathes and things he puts in his mouth.

Babies are born with immune systems that can fight most germs, but there are some deadly diseases they can’t handle. That’s why they need vaccines to strengthen their immune system.

Vaccines use very small amounts of antigens to help your child’s immune system recognize and learn to fight serious diseases. Antigens are parts of germs that cause the body’s immune system to go to work.

Thanks to scientific advances, today’s vaccines can protect children from more diseases using fewer antigens. Vaccines contain only a tiny fraction of the antigens that babies encounter in their environment every day.

Vaccines help strengthen your baby’s immune system and keep him safe from vaccine-preventable diseases.

www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents