

Tesla's Latest EV Is Good, Clean Fun



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(Josh Edelson/AFP/Getty Images)

Tesla just unveiled its smallest and most affordable electric vehicle to date, and it's not the much-anticipated \$30,000 Model 3.

Wrapped in sleek styling that makes it look like a much smaller open-top version of Tesla's now iconic Model S, its battery pack is based on the latest Flight Speed lithium-ion technology, which is claimed to afford three times the range of competitors' models. Unfortunately it seats just one passenger and features a top speed of only six miles per hour.

That's because it's an electric-powered kiddie car – albeit one that's top-shelf in every respect – created in conjunction with famed wagon-maker [Radio Flyer](#) in Chicago, IL. Working headlamps light the way back from the playground at dusk, and there's an input for connecting and playing portable music players (perhaps a subwoofer for the full booming effect could be a future option).



A handy front-mounted trunk can take juice boxes or stuffed animal along for the ride, and there's an available mini car-cover to protect the tiny Tesla from the elements. Like the full-size Model S, buyers can choose an extra-cost premium battery for extended range on a charge. A choice of "authentic" Tesla colors includes Midnight Silver Metallic, Deep Blue Metallic, and Red Multi-Coat. Suggested age range is 3-8 and the vehicle has a maximum 81-pound weight capacity.

As might be expected, the minute Model S doesn't come cheap, with a retail price of \$499 – and it can reportedly reach the \$800 mark with the optional battery and a full slate of accessories. Unfortunately, it's not eligible for either the federal or available state tax breaks available to grownup EV buyers.

However, most gated communities will likely allow teeny Tesla drivers to use the carpool lane on cul-de-sac sidewalks without fear of reproach.

The Tesla for tots should be reaching store shelves in May.