

BABY No. 2 is on the way for Oscar winner Ben Affleck and his beautiful wife, "Alias" star Jennifer Garner. The ENQUIRER has learned exclusively!

The happy couple expects a sibling for their adorable 2 1/2-year-old daughter Violet early next year, according to close friends.

"A few days before the Fourth of July, Jen began calling close pals with the news that she was pregnant again!" a close pal told The ENQUIRER. "Jen said she's three months along – and she and Ben are 'ecstatic!'"

There was a sense Jen was trying to keep Ben close

While "Juno" star Jen dismissed recent rumors of marital troubles, close pals were worried that something was amiss between the two, the source said.

"There was the sense Jen was trying to keep Ben close – and what better way than to have another baby," the source added. "Now they couldn't be happier."

A second source also confirmed the baby is due next year, when big sister Violet

EATING FOR TWO: Jennifer enjoys a tasty treat on July 2



ENQUIRER EXCLUSIVE

BABY NO. 2 for Ben & Jennifer

Couple expecting new arrival early next year

is 3 – which is exactly the age difference the couple wanted.

"Jennifer is 36, so she'll be having a prenatal test to make sure

the baby is healthy," the source told The ENQUIRER. "She and Ben are still deciding whether they'll ask the sex of the child."

PALS EXPECT THE A-LIST COUPLE – who first met when they starred in 2001's "Pearl Harbor" – to continue their down-to-earth lifestyle.

"Jennifer and Ben have a home in Los Angeles, but they live fairly normal lives," the source said. "They spend time in Charleston, W.Va., where Jennifer's family lives, and in Boston, close to Ben's mom."

"They're both close to their parents, and Violet is super attached to her grandparents. Both extended families are very excited about adding another little Affleck to the fold!"

by ROBIN MIZRAHI

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Nannies say *no-no* to J.Lo

Couple searching for No. 3 after first two walk away

EVEN "Supernanny" wouldn't take this gig!

Jennifer Lopez and hubby Marc Anthony are willing to shell out a whopping \$2,250 a week for live-in help for their twins – but their nannies keep walking off the job!

"Probably more like running off the job," a source close to the couple told The ENQUIRER.

"Normally people who make huge sums of money and have loads of professional and social obligations hire a nanny for each child, especially for newborns.

"But it is as if Jennifer expects one nanny not only to take care of both twins, but to work 16-hour days, seven days a week!"

The couple originally planned to do all the baby-rearing on their own, but it soon became clear they needed help.

According to the source, the first nanny lasted a month.

"They hired a second nanny, who was wonderful with the twins, but she couldn't take working such long hours without a break," added the source.

"After that nanny resigned, the couple began desperately seeking nanny No. 3."

Jennifer, 38, gave birth to Max and Emme on Feb. 22, and she's teaming with The Learning Channel to air a reality show based on life with Marc and their two babies.

by ROBIN MIZRAHI

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Jennifer and Marc carry their newborns off a private jet in Belgium on June 18