



Child's play?

- 1 At what age do you think a child becomes an adult? Discuss this with your partner. What are the reasons you chose this age? What defines a child and an adult?
- 2 What do you think the expression *child's play* means?
- 3 With a different partner, discuss when you think children should start school. How long should compulsory education last? Why?
- 4 Look at the other expressions connected to children with your partner. What do they mean? Do you have similar expressions in your language?
 - *It takes a village to raise a child*
 - *Out of the mouths of babes*
 - *Spare the rod and spoil the child*
 - *Like a child in a sweetshop*
- 5 The picture shows an adult and new-born baby. Describe the picture to a different partner. How do you think they all feel? What are their hopes for the future?
- 6 In some countries children have to work from a very early age. Can you think of any examples? What do you think about this?
- 7 How many of the world's child population do not have access to education? Do you know the reasons why?
 - 2 million
 - 7 million
 - 45 million
 - 69 million
- 8 According to the Global Campaign for Education, these are the key reasons children do not go to school.
 - A third of all children out of school have a disability.
 - 60% of all children out of school are girls.
 - Nearly 250 million children have to work to help their families.
 - Half of the world's out-of-school children live in communities where the language used in school is different from that used at home.

In groups of three, discuss the above statistics. What issues do they raise? Think of solutions which would ensure all children have access to education. Choose one of the above to present to the rest of the class.

