Warm up

1 Complete the nursery rhyme with the words in the box. Do you know this rhyme?

all    blows    fall

Rock-a-bye baby on the tree top, when the wind ____________ the cradle will rock, when the bough breaks the cradle will _____________.
down will come baby, cradle and _____________.

2 Can you remember any nursery rhymes in your language? What are they?

Reading

1 Read the text. Which sentence is the best summary?
   a. Music and poetry are linked.
   b. We are affected by music from a very young age.
   c. Babies are more sensitive to music than adults.
   d. Lullabies are an English invention.

2 Read the text again. What do these words refer to?

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3 Which of the facts in the text do you think are the most interesting? Compare your ideas with a partner.

Language focus

Look at the words in the box and put them into two groups: music or babies. Then translate them into your language.

born    infant    melody    musical
pregnancy    rhyme    singing    tune    womb

Speaking

Work in pairs and ask each other these questions.
When you were a child...
• did your mother or father sing to you? What songs?
• did you have a favourite record or group? What was it?
• did you play an instrument? Which one?
• did you have music class at school? Did you enjoy it?
• did you use to sing? What songs?