

## Welcoming a new baby

I wonder, do you have a photograph of when you were a baby? Perhaps you might like to look through some of them with your adult at home.

Do you know how you were welcomed into your family? Perhaps people gave you gifts or came to your house to see you when you arrived home. In the space below, write one way that your family welcomed you.



## Getting ready

Think about a new baby being born. What do you think you might need to get ready for when they are born? Draw and label the things in the box below.



## How do Muslim families welcome a new baby?

New babies often get a message at the very beginning of their lives to welcome them into the world and into belonging to the Muslim religion.



I wonder, what do you think this man is whispering into his new baby's ear?

## What is he whispering?

This man is actually whispering the words of the Shahadah into his new baby's ear. The Shahadah is the declaration of faith and one of the five pillars of Islam.

The words are normally said in Arabic but in English they are:

*'There is no god but Allah and Muhammad is the messenger of Allah'*



These will be the first words this baby hears. I wonder, what were the first words that you heard?

## What would you whisper to a new baby?

I wonder, what do you think you would whisper into a new baby's ear? Would you tell them something about the world or would you tell them something they will enjoy doing when they are older? In the box below, write down one important thing that you would tell a new baby about this world.

## Aqiqah

There are other ceremonies and these are called Aqiqah. These photos show one of the Aqiqah ceremonies, can you see what is happening?



In the photos both babies are having their heads shaved. Some Muslims believe that getting rid of the hair is a way of getting rid of any bad luck or trouble. The hair is weighed and the same weight is given to the poor in silver or something else that is valuable.

## Three Facts

Can you write down three things that you have learnt about how Muslims welcome a new baby?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_