Grade 1 French

Parent guides. A step-by-step script for every lesson, with materials, what to read aloud and a checklist.

First edition **5 units** **10 lessons · one quarter** **A song or video for every lesson** **Quick reference**

FIRST EDITION

Course guide

Grade 1 French is a short course of 10 lessons (5 units of 2), one lesson a week for a quarter, with three sessions of 15–20 minutes a week. It does not depend on Kindergarten French, though a child who did Kindergarten will hear old friends: bonjour, merci, the colors and the numbers.

The child learns to name the family, to label the house, to say the days of the week with today, yesterday and tomorrow, to name fruits and breakfast foods and ask for them politely, and to talk about clothes and the weather. The paintings are Berthe Morisot's mother at the cradle, Van Gogh's bedroom in Arles, Millet's Angelus, Cézanne's apples and Caillebotte's rainy Paris street; the Bible stories are Ruth and Naomi, Joshua's promise for his house, the day of rest, the daily bread and the lilies of the field.

Reading and writing are light: a parent writes the French labels and the child traces or copies them into a picture dictionary. The quarter ends with a French breakfast and a weather report.

> Every embedded video comes from a channel Jerad has approved for School Launch: Alain Le Lait (a cheerful teacher who sings short French songs for children; YouTube lists his channel as tialela99), the Titounis (traditional French nursery rhymes, sung clearly for little ones), and Learn French With Alexa (a friendly teacher from France). A few lessons use a single approved read-along story from BookBox French. Most songs are one or two minutes long, so play them twice: once to listen and once to sing along. The videos play in YouTube's privacy-enhanced player. Preview each one first and stay nearby,

> since YouTube shows its own suggestions when a video ends. The new videos were chosen by title and channel, so please preview them before the lesson.

Start with Lesson 1.1 →

Who it is for

Written for students in grade 1 (about ages 6–7), with a parent or teacher reading the lessons aloud and joining in. No French is needed by the child or the parent: every word comes with its sounds spelled out, and the songs do the rest. Reading and writing are light: tracing and copying single words under drawings. Sessions are short, 15 to 20 minutes. Nothing needs to be bought: every activity uses paper, crayons, paper plates and household things.

How to use this course

1. **The weekly rhythm.** The quarter has 10 lessons, one a week, each with three sessions of 15–20 minutes. Session 1 is the warm-up, the story, the song or video and the picture study (in the first lesson of each unit). Session 2 is the activity and the picture dictionary. Session 3 is the worked examples, the practice questions (asked out loud), the game and a little show for the family. In the second week of each unit, use part of Session 3 for the unit review and the unit challenge.
2. **Say it every day.** Little children learn a language by hearing it and saying it, over and over, cheerfully. Say bonjour at breakfast and bonne nuit at bedtime, count the stairs in French, and name colors in the car. Two minutes of French every day does more than an hour once a week.
3. **Move while you learn.** Every lesson has a part called *Say it and move*. The motions are not extras: young children remember words they act out. Do the motions every time you say the words.
4. **Story, sounds, motion.** The core ideas are written to be read aloud. *The story* tells a true story or a Bible story; *How French sounds* gives one or two sounds to listen for; *Say it and move* puts the words in the child's body. After the story, ask your child to tell it back.

5. **The picture dictionary.** Keep one notebook for the quarter. Each lesson the child draws pictures and a parent writes the French word for the child to trace or copy. By the end of the quarter it is a little book of everything learned.
6. **Little words in front.** French nouns come with a little word in front, le or la (le chat, la vache). Grammar is not taught at this age, but always say the little word with the noun, so the ear learns it early.
7. **The word list.** The quarter teaches 61 words and phrases. Unit 1: maman, papa, la famille, je t'aime, voici, le frère, la sœur, le bébé, la grand-mère, le grand-père, mamie. Unit 2: la maison, la porte, la fenêtre, la cuisine, le jardin, la chambre, le lit, la chaise, la table, la lampe, voici ma chambre. Unit 3: lundi, mardi, mercredi, jeudi, vendredi, samedi, dimanche, quel jour?, aujourd'hui, hier, demain, le matin, le soir, la semaine. Unit 4: la pomme, la poire, la banane, l'orange, la fraise, j'aime, le pain, le beurre, la confiture, le lait, le chocolat chaud, s'il te plaît. Unit 5: le manteau, le pantalon, la robe, le chapeau, les chaussures, la chemise, quel temps fait-il?, il fait beau, il pleut, il neige, il fait chaud, il fait froid, le parapluie.
8. **Heritage families.** If your child already speaks French at home, use the same lessons and the *At home in French* note in each lesson, which suggests reading, writing and family conversation for children who already understand the words.
9. **Printables.** Each lesson has a one-page worksheet, and the answers are in a separate key for the parent. Each unit review also has a printable key.
10. **The French Bible.** French verses are quoted from the Louis Segond Bible of 1910, the public-domain French Bible that French-speaking Protestants have read for more than a century, the French counterpart of the King James. Where the King James prints the LORD in capitals, Louis Segond writes l'Éternel, the Eternal One. The English verse is always the King James Version, quoted exactly.

Scope and sequence

UNIT 1 · WEEKS 1–2

Ma Famille

The family in French: maman and papa, then frère, sœur, bébé, grand-mère and grand-père, with Berthe Morisot's mother watching over a sleeping baby and the commandment to honor father and mother.

1.1 Maman et Papa

1.2 Frère, Sœur, Bébé

UNIT 2 · WEEKS 3–4

Ma Maison

The house in French: la maison, la porte, la fenêtre, la cuisine, then the bedroom, le lit, la chaise, la table, with Van Gogh's bedroom in Arles and the promise: As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

2.1 La Maison

2.2 Dans Ma Chambre

UNIT 3 · WEEKS 5–6

Les Jours

The seven days of the week in French, lundi to dimanche, with their old names from the moon and the planets, the day of rest God gave us, and Millet's farmers stopping to pray when the bell rings.

3.1 Lundi, Mardi, Mercredi

3.2 Aujourd'hui, Hier, Demain

UNIT 4 · WEEKS 7–8

À Table

Food in French: la pomme, la poire, la banane, la fraise and j'aime (I like), then breakfast, le pain, le lait, le beurre and le chocolat, with Cézanne's apples and the prayer for our daily bread.

4.1 J'aime les Fruits

4.2 Le Petit Déjeuner

UNIT 5 · WEEKS 9–10

Vêtements et Météo

Clothes and weather in French: le manteau, le pantalon, la robe, les chaussures, then Quel temps fait-il? Il pleut, il fait beau, il fait froid, with Caillebotte's Paris street on a rainy day and the promise of seedtime and harvest, cold and heat.

5.1 Les Vêtements

5.2 Quel Temps Fait-il?

Weekly pacing calendar

WEEK	PLAN
1	• Session 1: Lesson 1.1 Maman et Papa: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 1.1 activity (je t'aime cards) and picture dictionary • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and a little show for the family *Three short sessions a week: one to learn, one to make, one to play. On the other days, use the week's words at home: at breakfast, at the door, at bedtime.*
2	• Session 1: Lesson 1.2 Frère, Sœur, Bébé: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 1.2 activity (my family tree) and picture dictionary • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and a little show for the family • End of unit: Unit 1 review and unit challenge (the family photo show)
3	• Session 1: Lesson 2.1 La Maison: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 2.1 activity (sticky-note house) and picture dictionary • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and a little show for the family
4	• Session 1: Lesson 2.2 Dans Ma Chambre: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 2.2 activity (shoebox bedroom) and picture dictionary • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and a little show for the family • End of unit: Unit 2 review and unit challenge (the house tour)
5	• Session 1: Lesson 3.1 Lundi, Mardi, Mercredi: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 3.1 activity (french calendar) and picture dictionary • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and a little show for the family
6	• Session 1: Lesson 3.2 Aujourd'hui, Hier, Demain: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 3.2 activity (yesterday, today, tomorrow cards) and picture dictionary • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and a little show for the family • End of unit: Unit 3 review and unit challenge (the week wheel)
7	• Session 1: Lesson 4.1 J'aime les Fruits: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 4.1 activity (fruit still life) and picture dictionary • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and a little show for the family
8	• Session 1: Lesson 4.2 Le Petit Déjeuner: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 4.2 activity (café menu) and picture dictionary • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and a little show for the family

WEEK	PLAN
	• End of unit: Unit 4 review and unit challenge (a french breakfast)
9	• Session 1: Lesson 5.1 Les Vêtements: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 5.1 activity (paper doll wardrobe) and picture dictionary • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and a little show for the family
10	• Session 1: Lesson 5.2 Quel Temps Fait-il?: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 5.2 activity (weather wheel) and picture dictionary • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and a little show for the family • End of unit: Unit 5 review and unit challenge (the weather report and dress-up show)

Materials

A notebook for the picture dictionary

One for the quarter, for drawings with French labels.

Crayons or markers, paper, paper plates, scissors, glue and tape

For the activities. A parent helps with cutting.

Index cards

For counting cards and word games.

A device to play the songs and videos

Each lesson has one short song or video.

Grading

Grades at this age come from cheerful participation: saying the words, singing, doing the motions and joining the games. A child who says French out loud every day and joins every song and game earns full credit.

PART	%
Saying and singing (daily greetings, songs, motions, games)	40
Picture dictionary and activities	30

PART	%
Unit reviews (out loud)	15
Unit challenges	15

Scale: Most families simply mark each review Got it, Getting there or Not yet. If you prefer letters: A 90–100, B 80–89, C 70–79. Below that, sing the songs and play the games again, then try once more.

- Every review is done out loud. The parent asks, the child answers or points, and the parent marks the answer key.
- A word counts when the child can say it so a French speaker would understand. Small accents are fine.
- The French r and the nasal on come with time. Praise every try.

A note to parents

You do not need to know French to teach this course. Every French word has its sounds spelled out (bonjour is bohn-ZHOOR), every answer is in the answer key, and every lesson has a short song with a native speaker. Learn right alongside your child.

Keep it short and happy. If your child is tired, sing the song and stop. Fifteen joyful minutes are better than thirty unhappy ones.

The stories in this course are true stories of painters, places and people from France and the French-speaking world, and stories from the Bible. Each lesson ends with a verse in English (King James Version) and the same verse in the Louis Segond French Bible, so your child can hear that God's Word speaks in every language.

Parents should preview the videos and stay nearby.

PRINTABLE WORD LIST

Vocabulary for the course

Standard French. Standard French as taught in France and understood everywhere, with Quebec differences noted. Most final consonants are silent except c, r, f and l (the CaReFuL letters); on, an and in are nasal vowels,

hummed through the nose; French leans lightly on the last sounded syllable of a word, shown here in capitals. In the respellings, zh is the s in measure, ü is French u (say ee with rounded lips), uh is the soft e of le, and r is the French r, made in the back of the throat.

Every week's list is printed again inside that lesson. Say the capital letters loudest.

1.1 MAMAN ET PAPA

maman
mah-MAHN
la · family
mom

papa
pah-PAH
le · family
dad

la famille
lah fah-MEE
la · family
family

je t'aime
zhuh TEM
phrase
I love you

voici
vwah-SEE
pointing word
here is

1.2 FRÈRE, SŒUR, BÉBÉ

le frère
luh FREHR
le · family
brother

la sœur
lah SUHR
la · family
sister

le bébé
luh bay-BAY
le · family
baby

la grand-mère
lah grahn-MEHR
la · family
grandmother

le grand-père

luh grahn-PEHR

le · family

grandfather

mamie

mah-MEE

name

grandma

2.1 LA MAISON

la maison

lah may-ZOHN

la · house

house

la porte

lah PORT

la · house

door

la fenêtre

lah fuh-NEH-truh

la · house

window

la cuisine

lah kwee-ZEEN

la · house

kitchen

le jardin

luh zhar-DAN

le · house

garden; yard

2.2 DANS MA CHAMBRE

la chambre

lah SHAHM-bruh

la · house

bedroom

le lit

luh LEE

le · house

bed

la chaise

lah SHEZ

la · house

chair

la table

lah TAH-bluh

la · house

table

la lampe

lah LAHMP

la · house

lamp

voici ma chambre

vwah-SEE mah SHAHM-bruh

phrase

here is my bedroom

3.1 LUNDI, MARDI, MERCREDI

lundi

luhn-DEE

le · day

Monday

mardi

mar-DEE

le · day

Tuesday

mercredi

mehr-kruh-DEE

le · day

Wednesday

jeudi

zhuh-DEE

le · day

Thursday

vendredi

vahn-druh-DEE

le · day

Friday

samedi

sahm-DEE

le · day

Saturday

dimanche

dee-MAHNSH

le · day

Sunday

quel jour?

kel ZHOOR

question

what day? (Quel jour sommes-nous? what day is it?)

3.2 AUJOURD'HUI, HIER, DEMAIN

aujourd'hui

oh-zhoor-DWEE

time word

today

hier

YEHR

time word

yesterday

demain
duh-MAN
time word
tomorrow

le matin
luh mah-TAN
le · time
morning

le soir
luh SWAHR
le · time
evening

la semaine
lah suh-MEN
la · time
week

4.1 J'AIME LES FRUITS

la pomme
lah PUM
la · food
apple

la poire
lah PWAHR
la · food
pear

la banane
lah bah-NAHN
la · food
banana

l'orange
loh-RAHNZH
la · food
orange

la fraise
lah FREZ
la · food
strawberry

j'aime
ZHEM
phrase
I like

4.2 LE PETIT DÉJEUNER

le pain
luh PAN
le · food
bread

le beurre
luh BUHR
le · food
butter

la confiture
lah kohn-fee-TÜR
la · food
jam

le lait
luh LAY
le · food
milk

le chocolat chaud
luh shoh-koh-LAH SHOH
le · food
hot chocolate

s'il te plaît
seel tuh PLAY
polite word
please

5.1 LES VÊTEMENTS

le manteau
luh mahn-TOH
le · clothes
coat

le pantalon
luh pahn-tah-LOHN
le · clothes
trousers; pants

la robe
lah RUB
la · clothes
dress

le chapeau
luh shah-POH
le · clothes
hat

les chaussures
lay shoh-SÜR
les · clothes
shoes

la chemise
lah shuh-MEEZ
la · clothes
shirt

5.2 QUEL TEMPS FAIT-IL?

quel temps fait-il?
kel tahn feh-TEEL
question
what is the weather like?

il fait beau
eel feh BOH
weather
it is nice out

il pleut
eel PLUH
weather
it is raining

il neige
eel NEZH
weather
it is snowing

il fait chaud
eel feh SHOH
weather
it is hot

il fait froid
eel feh FRWAH
weather
it is cold

le parapluie
luh pah-rah-PLWEE
le · thing
umbrella

UNIT 1

Ma Famille

In Lesson 1.1 your child learns maman, papa, la famille and je t'aime, sings a little song for mothers, and looks at Berthe Morisot's painting of a mother watching her baby sleep.

In Lesson 1.2 your child adds le frère, la sœur, le bébé, la grand-mère and le grand-père, and draws a family tree. The unit ends with a family photo show.

PREREQUISITES

- None. Kindergarten French is helpful but not needed.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can say maman, papa and la famille.
- ☐ I can name brother, sister, baby, grandmother and grandfather in French.
- ☐ I can say je t'aime to my family.
- ☐ I can say the commandment Honor your father and your mother.

OPTIONAL BOOKS AND RESOURCES FOR THIS UNIT

- **WordReference French–English dictionary**: Free online, for the parent. Look up any word and press the speaker button to hear it said by a speaker from France or Quebec.
- **Forvo**: Free pronunciation library: hear any French word said by native speakers (link only).

Not required. Every activity in this unit works with paper, pencil, scissors and the free links below. School Launch is independent and free.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

1.1	**Maman et Papa**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes
1.2	**Frère, Sœur, Bébé**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes

Unit 1 review

Ask each question out loud. The review is worth 20 points.

1. **5 pts**
   Point to Mom and Dad (or a photo) and name them in French.
2. **5 pts**
   How do you say brother and sister in French?
3. **5 pts**
   How do you say grandmother and grandfather in French?
4. **5 pts**
   Say I love you in French to someone in your family.

ANSWER KEY

1. Maman, papa.
2. Le frère, la sœur.
3. La grand-mère, le grand-père.
4. Je t’aime.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: THE FAMILY PHOTO SHOW

Gather family photos or draw a picture of each person in your family. Hold up each one and say who it is in French: Voici maman! Voici mon frère! (Here is Mom! Here is my brother!) End by saying Je t’aime to the whole family.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Family words	Uses at least four family words.
Voici	Says Voici… for each person.
Sounds	Says maman with the hummed an.
Love	Ends with je t’aime.

UNIT 1 · MA FAMILLE · LESSON 1.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

1.1 Maman et Papa

OBJECTIVES

- Say maman, papa and la famille.
- Say je t’aime (I love you).
- Sing a little song for mothers in French.

Warm-up. Who is in your family? Name everyone who lives in your house. Today you learn to say Mom, Dad and family in French.

WATCH

C'est toi ma maman - Comptine pour enfants

Titounis - Comptine bébé - Chanson enfant · 1:37

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHT0L995v6w

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Listen once, then sing C’est toi ma maman and point to Mom.

Note: A gentle song for mothers from the Titounis, about a minute and a half.

KEY TERMS

maman (mah-MAHN)
Mom.

papa (pah-PAH)
Dad.

la famille (lah fah-MEE)
The family.

je t’aime (zhuh TEM)
I love you.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Standard French sounds: most last letters are quiet (but c, r, f and l usually speak), on, an and in are hummed through the nose, and the capitals show where to lean: the last sounded syllable.

maman
mah-MAHN
la · family
mom

papa
pah-PAH
le · family
dad

la famille
lah fah-MEE
la · family
family

je t’aime
zhuh TEM
phrase
I love you

voici

vwah-SEE

pointing word

here is

CORE IDEAS

The story. Berthe Morisot was a French painter who loved to paint her own family. One day she painted her sister Edma sitting beside a cradle where Edma's baby daughter was asleep. A thin white curtain hangs over the cradle like a cloud. The mother leans her chin on her hand and watches the baby breathe. She does not want to wake her. That is what a maman does: she watches over her children with love. In French, a child says maman and papa, and je t'aime, I love you.

How French sounds. In maman, the second an is hummed through the nose: mah-MAHN. French leans on the last part: mah-MAHN, pah-PAH. In famille, the ill sounds like y: fah-MEE.

Say it and move. Rock a pretend baby: **maman!** Stand tall and strong: **papa!** Spread your arms wide to hug everyone: **la famille!** Cross your hands over your heart: **je t'aime!**

PICTURE STUDY



The Cradle, Berthe Morisot, 1872 · Oil on canvas · Musée d'Orsay, Paris

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Berthe Morisot painted her sister Edma watching her baby daughter, Blanche, sleep. Morisot was one of the first women to show her paintings with the French Impressionists. She painted the white curtain with light, quick strokes so it seems to float, and she made the mother's face calm and loving.

Look closely

- Find the baby. What is the baby doing?
- Where is the mother looking?
- What is over the cradle?
- Is this a loud picture or a quiet one?

Talk about it

1. How does someone in your family take care of you?
2. What would you whisper to a sleeping baby?

ACTIVITY

Je t’aime cards

Make a little card for Maman and one for Papa that says je t’aime.

You will need

- Two pieces of paper folded in half
- Crayons or markers, stickers

Steps

1. Fold each paper in half to make a card.
2. On the front, draw Mom on one card and Dad on the other.
3. A parent writes maman or papa on the front and je t’aime inside.
4. Trace the words and decorate with hearts.
5. Give each card and say Je t’aime, maman! Je t’aime, papa!

Tips

- Make one for a grandparent too.
- Say the words slowly as you trace them.

Check your work

☐ I made two cards with French words.

☐ I can say je t’aime.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw Mom and Dad. A parent writes maman and papa under them.
2. Draw a big heart and write je t’aime in it.

> **From history.** Berthe Morisot and her sister Edma both learned to paint as girls. Edma stopped painting when she married, but Berthe painted all her life, and her daughter Julie often sat for her pictures.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can learn la mère and le père, the words used in books for mother and father, and write maman and papa in a card.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. How do you say Mom in French?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Mom is maman.
2. Hum the last part: mah-MAHN.

Answer: Maman.

Example 2. How do you say I love you?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Say je, then t'aime.

Answer: Je t'aime.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say Dad in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Papa.

2. Easy Say Mom in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Maman.

3. Easy Say family in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La famille.

4. Medium Say I love you, Mom in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Je t'aime, maman.

5. Medium What does la famille mean?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   The family.

6. Hard Point to each person in a family photo and say maman or papa.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Maman / papa for the right person.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying the n in maman. It is hummed: mah-MAHN.
- Saying the ll in famille as l. It sounds like y: fah-MEE.

> **Make it a game · Où est maman?.** A parent hides a family photo or a doll. Ask Où est maman? (Where is Mom?) and hunt for it. When you find it, shout Voici maman! Take turns hiding.

> **Scripture.** “Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.” (Exodus 20:12, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Honore ton père et ta mère.* God gave us the commandment to honor father and mother. In French, honore means honor. We honor maman and papa when we listen, obey and say je t’aime.

UNIT 1 · MA FAMILLE · LESSON 1.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

1.2 Frère, Sœur, Bébé

OBJECTIVES

- Name brother, sister and baby in French.
- Name grandmother and grandfather in French.
- Draw a family tree with French labels.

> **Warm-up.** Sing C’est toi ma maman again. Then count: how many brothers and sisters do you have? How many grandparents?

WATCH

Ma famille (Vocabulaire de la famille) - alain le lait

tialela99 · 2:06

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MFk9YmJv-jc

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Point to a family photo as each family word is sung.

Note: A two-minute family vocabulary song by Alain Le Lait.

KEY TERMS

le frère (luh FREHR)
The brother.

la sœur (lah SUHR)
The sister.

le bébé (luh bay-BAY)
The baby.

la grand-mère (lah grahn-MEHR)
The grandmother.

le grand-père (luh grahn-PEHR)
The grandfather.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Standard French sounds: most last letters are quiet (but c, r, f and l usually speak), on, an and in are hummed through the nose, and the capitals show where to lean: the last sounded syllable.

le frère
luh FREHR
le · family
brother

la sœur
lah SUHR
la · family
sister

le bébé
luh bay-BAY
le · family
baby

la grand-mère
lah grahn-MEHR
la · family
grandmother

le grand-père
luh grahn-PEHR
le · family
grandfather

mamie
mah-MEE
name
grandma

CORE IDEAS

The story. In the Bible, a young woman named Ruth loved her husband's mother, Naomi, so much that when Naomi was old and alone, Ruth would not leave her. She said, Where you go, I will go, and your people will be my people. Ruth worked in the fields to feed Naomi, and God blessed her with a husband, Boaz, and a baby boy named Obed. Naomi held the baby and became a happy grandmother, a grand-mère. Obed grew up to be the grandfather, the grand-père, of King David.

How French sounds. Sœur has a special letter, œ, two letters stuck together. It sounds like the uh in her, with rounded lips: SUHR. In grand-mère, the d is quiet: grahn-MEHR. Bébé has two little accents that say ay: bay-BAY.

Say it and move. Flex your arm: **le frère!** Twirl: **la sœur!** Rock a baby: **le bébé!** Walk slowly with a pretend cane: **le grand-père!** Knit with pretend needles: **la grand-mère!**

ACTIVITY

My family tree

Draw a family tree with a picture and a French word for each person.

You will need

- A large sheet of paper
- Crayons, green and brown for the tree

Steps

1. Draw a big tree with a brown trunk and green branches.
2. On the trunk, draw yourself.
3. On the branches, draw maman, papa, your brothers and sisters, and your grandparents.
4. A parent writes the French word under each person: maman, papa, le frère, la sœur, la grand-mère, le grand-père.
5. Trace the words and say each one.

Tips

- Ask a grandparent to tell you a story about when he or she was little.
- Add pets too: le chien, le chat.

Check your work

☐ My tree has at least five family members.

☐ Each person has a French label.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw your brothers, sisters and grandparents. A parent writes le frère, la sœur, la grand-mère and le grand-père.

> **From history.** French children often call their grandparents mamie and papi, the way English children say grandma and grandpa.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can say mon frère, ma sœur (my brother, my sister) and copy each family word under a photo.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Your mom's mom is your…? Say it in French.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Mom's mom is your grandmother.
2. Grandmother is la grand-mère.

Answer: La grand-mère.

Example 2. How do you say sister in French?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Sister is la sœur.
2. Round your lips: SUHR.

Answer: La sœur.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say brother in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le frère.

2. Easy Say baby in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le bébé.

3. Easy Say sister in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La sœur.

4. Medium Say grandfather in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le grand-père.

5. Medium Who was Ruth kind to?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Naomi, her husband's mother.

6. Hard Name four family members in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Any four: maman, papa, le frère, la sœur, le bébé, la grand-mère, le grand-père.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying sœur like sir with an English r. Round the lips and use the French r.
- Saying the d in grand. It is quiet.

> **Make it a game · Family Go Fish.** Make pairs of cards with family pictures. Ask As-tu la grand-mère? (Do you have the grandmother?) If the other player has it, he or she says Oui! and gives it. If not: Non, va pêcher! (No, go fish!)

> **Scripture.** "A Song of degrees of David. Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Qu'il est agréable, qu'il est doux Pour des frères de demeurer ensemble!* It is good and pleasant when brothers and sisters live together in peace. Be kind to your frère and your sœur today.

UNIT 2

Ma Maison

In Lesson 2.1 your child learns la maison (house), la porte (door), la fenêtre (window), la cuisine (kitchen) and le jardin (garden), and labels the house with sticky notes.

In Lesson 2.2 your child moves into the bedroom: la chambre, le lit, la chaise, la table, la lampe, with Vincent van Gogh's painting of his little bedroom in Arles. The unit ends with a house tour in French.

PREREQUISITES

- Unit 1.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can name the house, the door, the window and the kitchen in French.
- ☐ I can name the bed, the chair, the table and the lamp in French.
- ☐ I can give a little house tour in French.
- ☐ I can say Moi et ma maison, nous servirons l'Éternel.

OPTIONAL BOOKS AND RESOURCES FOR THIS UNIT

- **WordReference French–English dictionary**: Free online, for the parent. Look up any word and press the speaker button to hear it said by a speaker from France or Quebec.

Not required. Every activity in this unit works with paper, pencil, scissors and the free links below. School Launch is independent and free.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

2.1	**La Maison**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes
2.2	**Dans Ma Chambre**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes

Unit 2 review

Ask each question out loud; walk around the house if you like. The review is worth 20 points.

1. 5 pts

   Point to the door and the window and name them in French.

2. 5 pts

   What is the kitchen in French?

3. 5 pts

   Name the bed and the chair in French.

4. 5 pts

   What is the bedroom in French?

ANSWER KEY

1. La porte, la fenêtre.
2. La cuisine.
3. Le lit, la chaise.
4. La chambre.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: THE HOUSE TOUR

Give a parent or a stuffed animal a tour of your house in French. At each place, stop and say Voici la porte! Voici la cuisine! Voici ma chambre! Voici mon lit! Use your sticky-note labels to help.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Places	Names at least five places or things in the house.
Voici	Uses Voici… each time.
Sounds	Keeps the end letters quiet: lit, porte.
Hospitality	Welcomes the guest with Bonjour and ends with Au revoir.

2.1 La Maison

OBJECTIVES

- Name the house, the door, the window, the kitchen and the garden in French.
- Label things in your house with French words.
- Say a verse about serving God at home.

> **Warm-up.** Walk to the front door. Open it and close it. Look out a window. What do you see? Today you learn the French names.

WATCH

Apprendre le vocabulaire de la maison

Titounis - Comptine bébé - Chanson enfant · 2:50

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4V2srYL1VC0

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Point to each part of the house as it is named.

Note: A short house vocabulary video from the Titounis, under three minutes.

KEY TERMS

la maison (lah may-ZOHN)
The house.

la porte (lah PORT)
The door.

la fenêtre (lah fuh-NEH-truh)
The window.

la cuisine (lah kwee-ZEEN)
The kitchen.

le jardin (luh zhar-DAN)
The garden; the yard.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Standard French sounds: most last letters are quiet (but c, r, f and l usually speak), on, an and in are hummed through the nose, and the capitals show where to lean: the last sounded syllable.

la maison

lah may-ZOHN

la · house

house

la porte

lah PORT

la · house

door

la fenêtre

lah fuh-NEH-truh

la · house

window

la cuisine

lah kwee-ZEEN

la · house

kitchen

le jardin

luh zhar-DAN

le · house

garden; yard

CORE IDEAS

The story. Long ago, Joshua led God's people into the land God had promised them. When he was old, he called all the people together and said, Choose today whom you will serve. Then he said something brave and beautiful: As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD. Joshua meant his whole family, everyone who lived in his house. A house is more than walls and a door. It is a family living together, and a family can serve God together.

How French sounds. In maison, the s between two vowels buzzes like z: may-ZOHN, and the on is hummed. In fenêtre, the little hat on the ê is called a circumflex; it often marks a letter s that dropped out long ago. Window in old French was fenestre, like the English word defenestrate.

Say it and move. Draw a roof in the air: **la maison!** Knock: **la porte!** Make a frame with your fingers and peek: **la fenêtre!** Stir a pot: **la cuisine!** Plant a seed: **le jardin!**

ACTIVITY

Sticky-note house

Label your house in French with sticky notes.

You will need

- Sticky notes or paper and tape
- A marker (for the parent)

Steps

1. A parent writes la porte, la fenêtre, la cuisine and la maison on sticky notes.
2. Trace each word, then stick it on the right place.
3. Walk around and read each label out loud with a parent.
4. Leave the labels up all week and say the words every time you pass.

Tips

- Put la maison on the front door.
- Add le jardin to a back door or window.

Check your work

☐ I labeled at least four things in my house.

☐ I can say each word when I see it.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw your house with its door and windows. A parent writes la maison, la porte and la fenêtre.
2. Draw a pot in the kitchen and write la cuisine.

> **From history.** Old French houses in the countryside often have wooden shutters, called volets, on every window. Families close them at night and open them in the morning to let in the sun.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can read the sticky notes on their own and write one new label each day.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. What do you open to go outside? Say it in French.

▼ **Show solution**

1. We open the door.
2. Door is la porte.

Answer: La porte.

Example 2. Where do we cook?

▼ **Show solution**

1. We cook in the kitchen.
2. Kitchen is la cuisine.

Answer: La cuisine.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say house in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La maison.

2. Easy Point to a window and say it in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La fenêtre.

3. Easy Point to a door and say it in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La porte.

4. Medium Where do flowers grow? Say it in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le jardin.

5. Medium What sound does s make in maison?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   A buzzing z: may-ZOHN.

6. Hard Name five parts of the house in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La maison, la porte, la fenêtre, la cuisine, le jardin.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying maison with an s sound. Between vowels it is z: may-ZOHN.
- Saying the e at the end of porte. It is quiet: PORT.

> **Make it a game · Je vois….** Play I Spy in French: Je vois… la porte! (I see… the door!) The others race to touch it. Take turns.

> **Scripture.** “And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.” (Joshua 24:15, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Moi et ma maison, nous servirons l’Éternel.* Joshua said that he and his whole house would serve the LORD. In French, ma maison means my house. Our family can serve God together, at home.

UNIT 2 · MA MAISON · LESSON 2.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

2.2 Dans Ma Chambre

OBJECTIVES

- Name the bedroom, the bed, the chair, the table and the lamp in French.
- Describe a painting of a bedroom.
- Say a bedtime verse.

> **Warm-up.** Go to your bedroom. What do you sleep in? What do you sit on? Today you learn the French names.

WATCH

Dans ma chambre - alain le lait

tialela99 · 1:53

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CUAsT_mI5TY

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Point to things in your own room as they are sung.

Note: A two-minute song about the bedroom by Alain Le Lait.

KEY TERMS

la chambre (lah SHAHM-bruh)
The bedroom.

le lit (luh LEE)
The bed. The t is quiet.

la chaise (lah SHEZ)
The chair.

la table (lah TAH-bluh)
The table.

la lampe (lah LAHMP)
The lamp.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Standard French sounds: most last letters are quiet (but c, r, f and l usually speak), on, an and in are hummed through the nose, and the capitals show where to lean: the last sounded syllable.

la chambre
lah SHAHM-bruh
la · house
bedroom

le lit
luh LEE
le · house
bed

la chaise
lah SHEZ
la · house
chair

la table
lah TAH-bluh
la · house
table

la lampe	voici ma chambre
lah LAHMP	**vwah-SEE mah SHAHM-bruh**
la · house	phrase
lamp	here is my bedroom

CORE IDEAS

The story. Vincent van Gogh was a painter from Holland who moved to the south of France, to a sunny town called Arles. He rented a little yellow house and got a small bedroom ready. He was so pleased with it that he painted it: a wooden bed with a red blanket, two chairs, a little table with a pitcher, pictures on the blue walls, and a window with green shutters. He wrote to his brother that he wanted the picture to feel restful, like a good night's sleep.

How French sounds. In chambre, the am is hummed through the nose: SHAHM-bruh. In lit, the t is quiet: LEE. In chaise, ch is sh again, and the s buzzes: SHEZ.

Say it and move. Lie down and close your eyes: **le lit!** Sit down: **la chaise!** Pat the tabletop: **la table!** Click a pretend switch: **la lampe!** Spread your arms for the whole room: **la chambre!**

PICTURE STUDY



The Bedroom, Vincent van Gogh, 1889 · Oil on canvas (the smallest of his three versions) · Musée d'Orsay, Paris

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Van Gogh painted his bedroom in the yellow house in Arles three times; this smaller copy he made in 1889 as a gift for his mother and sister. He used bright, flat colors, blue walls, a red blanket, yellow furniture, because he wanted the room to look calm and simple. The floor and walls tilt a little, as if you were standing in the doorway looking in.

Look closely

- Find the bed. What color is the blanket?
- How many chairs are there?
- Find the window. Is it open or shut?
- Count the pictures on the walls.

Talk about it

1. What is in your bedroom that is not in this one?
2. Which color would you paint your bedroom walls?

ACTIVITY

Shoebox bedroom

Make a little bedroom in a shoebox and label each thing in French.

You will need

- A shoebox lying on its side
- Paper, crayons, glue, small boxes or blocks for furniture

Steps

1. Color the inside walls like Van Gogh: blue walls, a brown floor.
2. Make a bed, a chair, a table and a lamp from paper or small boxes.
3. A parent writes tiny labels: le lit, la chaise, la table, la lampe.
4. Glue each label next to its piece.
5. Show your room and say Voici ma chambre! Voici le lit!

Tips

- Add a red blanket on the bed like Van Gogh's.
- Put a little window on the wall.

Check your work

☐ My shoebox room has four pieces of furniture.

☐ Each piece has a French label.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw your own bed, chair and lamp. A parent writes le lit, la chaise and la lampe.

> **From history.** Van Gogh sold very few paintings while he lived, but today his paintings are among the most loved in the world. He wrote hundreds of letters to his brother Theo, and drew a little sketch of this bedroom in one of them.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can describe their room at bedtime: Dans ma chambre, il y a un lit, une chaise... (In my room there is a bed, a chair...).

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Where do you sleep? Say it in French.

▼ **Show solution**

1. We sleep in a bed.
2. Bed is le lit.

Answer: Le lit.

Example 2. What do you sit on at the table?

▼ **Show solution**

1. We sit on a chair.
2. Chair is la chaise.

Answer: La chaise.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say bed in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le lit.

2. Easy Say chair in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La chaise.

3. Easy Say lamp in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La lampe.

4. Medium Say bedroom in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La chambre.

5. Medium Which letter is quiet in lit?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   The t.

6. Hard Name four things in Van Gogh's bedroom in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le lit, la chaise, la table, la fenêtre (any four).

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying the t in lit. It is quiet: LEE.
- Saying chaise with a ch as in cheese. It is sh: SHEZ.

> **Make it a game · Bonne nuit, le lit.** A parent calls out a piece of furniture in French: la chaise! Run and touch it. When the parent says le lit, lie down and say Bonne nuit! Take turns calling.

> **Scripture.** "I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety." (Psalm 4:8, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Je me couche et je m'endors en paix.* King David could lie down and sleep in peace because God kept him safe. When you get into le lit tonight, remember that God watches over you.

UNIT 3

Les Jours

In Lesson 3.1 your child learns the days of the week, lundi, mardi, mercredi, jeudi, vendredi, samedi, dimanche, and the question Quel jour sommes-nous? (What day is it?), with a calendar to mark each day.

In Lesson 3.2 your child learns aujourd'hui (today), hier (yesterday) and demain (tomorrow), sings the old rhyme Lundi matin, and hears why dimanche, the Lord's day, is special, with Millet's painting The Angelus.

PREREQUISITES

- Units 1–2.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can say the seven days of the week in French, in order.
- ☐ I can answer Quel jour sommes-nous?
- ☐ I can say aujourd'hui, hier and demain.
- ☐ I can tell why dimanche is a special day.

OPTIONAL BOOKS AND RESOURCES FOR THIS UNIT

- **WordReference French–English dictionary**: Free online, for the parent. Look up any word and press the speaker button to hear it said by a speaker from France or Quebec.

Not required. Every activity in this unit works with paper, pencil, scissors and the free links below. School Launch is independent and free.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

3.1	**Lundi, Mardi, Mercredi**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes
3.2	**Aujourd'hui, Hier, Demain**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes

Unit 3 review

Ask each question out loud. The review is worth 20 points.

1. **5 pts**
   Say the days of the week in French, starting with Monday.
2. **5 pts**
   Quel jour sommes-nous? Answer with today's day.

3. 5 pts

   What do aujourd'hui and demain mean?

4. 5 pts

   Which day is the Lord's day, and what does its French name mean?

ANSWER KEY

1. Lundi, mardi, mercredi, jeudi, vendredi, samedi, dimanche.
2. C'est ___ (today's day in French).
3. Today and tomorrow.
4. Dimanche, from the Latin for the Lord's day.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: THE WEEK WHEEL

Make a wheel from a paper plate divided into seven slices. Write a day in each slice, and draw something you do on that day: church on dimanche, a bath on samedi. Add a paper arrow with a brass fastener or a pencil point. Each morning, turn the arrow and say Aujourd'hui, c'est... Show the family how it works.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Days	All seven days, in order.
Pictures	A drawing for each day.
Speaking	Says Aujourd'hui, c'est... with the right day.
Care	The wheel is neat and finished.

UNIT 3 · LES JOURS · LESSON 3.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

3.1 Lundi, Mardi, Mercredi

OBJECTIVES

- Say the seven days of the week in French.
- Ask and answer Quel jour sommes-nous?

- Mark the days on a calendar.

> **Warm-up.** Say the days of the week in English. What day is it today? What day comes after it?

WATCH

Les jours de la semaine - alain le lait (French days of the week)

tialela99 · 1:37

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lpwf5N0rfVE

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Clap on each day; stand up on dimanche.

Note: A one-and-a-half-minute days-of-the-week song by Alain Le Lait.

KEY TERMS

lundi (luhn-DEE)
Monday, the moon's day.

mardi (mar-DEE)
Tuesday.

mercredi (mehr-kruh-DEE)
Wednesday.

jeudi (zhuh-DEE)
Thursday.

vendredi (vahn-druh-DEE)
Friday.

samedi, dimanche (sahm-DEE, dee-MAHNSH)
Saturday and Sunday.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Standard French sounds: most last letters are quiet (but c, r, f and l usually speak), on, an and in are hummed through the nose, and the capitals show where to lean: the last sounded syllable.

lundi
luhn-DEE
le · day
Monday

mardi
mar-DEE
le · day
Tuesday

mercredi
mehr-kruh-DEE
le · day
Wednesday

jeudi
zhuh-DEE
le · day
Thursday

vendredi
vahn-druh-DEE
le · day
Friday

samedi
sahm-DEE
le · day
Saturday

dimanche
dee-MAHNSH
le · day
Sunday

quel jour?
kel ZHOOR
question
what day? (Quel jour sommes-nous? what day is it?)

CORE IDEAS

The story. When God made the world, He worked six days and rested on the seventh, and He gave us the week of seven days. Long ago the Romans named the days after the moon and the planets they saw in the sky. French still keeps those old names: lundi is the moon's day (the moon is la lune), mardi is the day of Mars, mercredi of Mercury, jeudi of Jupiter, vendredi of Venus. But samedi comes from the Sabbath, and dimanche comes from the Latin words for the Lord's day, the day Christians worship because Jesus rose from the dead on the first day of the week.

How French sounds. Almost every French day ends in di, which means day: lun-di, mar-di. The French lean on that last part: luhn-DEE. In dimanche, the an is hummed and the ch is sh: dee-MAHNSH. French days do not start with a capital letter.

Say it and move. March in place and say a day with each step: **lundi, mardi, mercredi, jeudi, vendredi, samedi**, and on **dimanche**, fold your hands and rest!

ACTIVITY

French calendar

Make a week calendar in French and mark each day.

You will need

- A sheet of paper
- A ruler, crayons, and stickers or a marker

Steps

1. A parent draws seven boxes in a row.
2. A parent writes a French day in each box, lundi to dimanche; trace each word.
3. Draw a little picture in each box of something you do that day.
4. Every morning, ask Quel jour sommes-nous? and put a sticker on today.

Tips

- Hang it by the breakfast table.
- Color dimanche gold.

Check your work

☐ My calendar has seven French days.

☐ I can say which day it is.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Write the seven days down the page (a parent writes, you trace). Draw a moon next to lundi and a church next to dimanche.

> **From history.** In French schools, Wednesday afternoon used to be a holiday for children, and in many towns it still is a short school day.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can write the date in French each morning: Aujourd'hui, c'est lundi.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. What day comes after lundi?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Lundi is Monday.
2. Tuesday comes next: mardi.

Answer: Mardi.

Example 2. Quel jour sommes-nous? (It is Friday.)

▼ **Show solution**

1. Friday is vendredi.
2. Say C'est vendredi.

Answer: C'est vendredi.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say Monday in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Lundi.

2. Easy Say Sunday in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Dimanche.

3. Easy What does di at the end of the days mean?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Day.

4. Medium What day comes before samedi?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Vendredi.

5. Medium Which day is named for the moon?

▼ **Show answer**

Lundi.

6. Hard Say all seven days in order.

▼ **Show answer**

Lundi, mardi, mercredi, jeudi, vendredi, samedi, dimanche.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Starting the days with a capital letter. In French they are small: lundi.
- Saying the d in dimanche like an English d plus a long i. It is dee-MAHNSH.

> **Make it a game · Quel jour?.** A parent says a day in French. Say the day that comes after it. Then say the day that comes before it. Speed up!

> **Scripture.** “So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.” (Psalm 90:12, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Enseigne-nous à bien compter nos jours.* Moses prayed that God would teach us to count our days well, so that we would grow wise. Every day of the week is a gift to use well.

UNIT 3 · LES JOURS · LESSON 3.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

3.2 Aujourd’hui, Hier, Demain

OBJECTIVES

- Say today, yesterday and tomorrow in French.
- Sing the rhyme Lundi matin.
- Tell why Sunday is the Lord’s day.

> **Warm-up.** Say the seven days in French. Then: what day is it today? What day was it yesterday? What day will it be tomorrow?

WATCH

Lundi matin, l'empereur, sa femme

Titounis - Comptine bébé - Chanson enfant · 2:25

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6-EQdZnoaKQ

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Sing along and hold up fingers for each day the little prince visits.

Note: The old French rhyme Lundi matin sung by the Titounis, about two and a half minutes.

KEY TERMS

aujourd'hui (oh-zhoor-DWEE)
Today.

demain (duh-MAN)
Tomorrow.

hier (YEHR)
Yesterday.

le matin (luh mah-TAN)
The morning.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Standard French sounds: most last letters are quiet (but c, r, f and l usually speak), on, an and in are hummed through the nose, and the capitals show where to lean: the last sounded syllable.

aujourd'hui
oh-zhoor-DWEE
time word
today

hier
YEHR
time word
yesterday

demain
duh-MAN
time word
tomorrow

le matin
luh mah-TAN
le · time
morning

le soir

luh SWAHR

le · time

evening

la semaine

lah suh-MEN

la · time

week

CORE IDEAS

The story. In France about a hundred and seventy years ago, a farmer and his wife were digging potatoes in a wide field. Far away, the church bell began to ring. It was the Angelus bell, which rang morning, noon and evening to call people to stop and pray. The farmer took off his hat, his wife folded her hands, and they bowed their heads right there in the field. A painter named Jean-François Millet had grown up on a farm and remembered his grandmother stopping to pray when the bell rang. He painted this quiet moment, and it became one of the most famous paintings in France.

How French sounds. Aujourd’hui is a long word: oh-zhoor-DWEE. It really means on the day of today. In demain and matin, the ain and in are hummed through the nose: duh-MAN, mah-TAN.

Say it and move. Point down at the floor: **aujourd’hui!** Point behind you: **hier!** Point ahead: **demain!** Stretch and yawn: **le matin!**

PICTURE STUDY



The Angelus, Jean-François Millet, 1857–1859 · Oil on canvas · Musée d'Orsay, Paris

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Millet painted farm people at work, plainly and with respect. Here a couple stops digging potatoes when the evening bell rings from the far-off church. Their heads are bowed, and the light of the setting sun glows behind them. Millet said he remembered how his grandmother, hearing the bell, would make the family stop and pray for the dead.

Look closely

- Find the church steeple. Where is it?
- What is the farmer holding?
- What are the two people doing?
- Find the basket. What do you think is in it?

Talk about it

1. When does your family stop to pray?
2. Why do you think Millet painted the sky so bright?

ACTIVITY

Yesterday, today, tomorrow cards

Make three cards and use them each morning to talk about the days.

You will need

- Three index cards
- Crayons

Steps

1. A parent writes hier, aujourd'hui and demain on the cards.
2. Draw an arrow pointing back on hier, a dot on aujourd'hui and an arrow pointing ahead on demain.
3. Each morning, lay out the cards and say: Hier, c'était... Aujourd'hui, c'est... Demain, c'est... with the days.
4. A parent helps the first few times.

Tips

- Use your calendar from Lesson 3.1 to check.
- On dimanche, add: C'est le jour du Seigneur! (It is the Lord's day!)

Check your work

☐ I made three day cards.

☐ I can say what day it is today.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw yourself yesterday, today and tomorrow in three boxes. A parent writes hier, aujourd'hui and demain.

> **From history.** Millet's Angelus was so loved that it was sold, bought back and fought over by collectors in France and America. Today it hangs in the Musée d'Orsay in Paris.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can keep a one-line diary: Aujourd'hui, c'est… and one thing they did.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Today is mardi. What day was yesterday?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Yesterday is the day before.
2. Before mardi comes lundi.

Answer: Hier, c'était lundi.

Example 2. Today is samedi. What day is tomorrow?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Tomorrow is the day after.
2. After samedi comes dimanche.

Answer: Demain, c'est dimanche.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say today in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Aujourd'hui.

2. Easy Say tomorrow in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Demain.

3. Easy Say yesterday in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Hier.

4. Medium Today is jeudi. What is tomorrow?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Vendredi.

5. Medium What were the farmers doing in Millet's painting?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Praying when the church bell rang.

6. Hard Say what day it was yesterday, is today and will be tomorrow.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Hier, c'était… Aujourd'hui, c'est… Demain, c'est… with the right days.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying the h in hier. It is quiet: YEHR.
- Saying demain with an English ain. It is hummed: duh-MAN.

> **Make it a game · Hier ou demain?.** A parent says something like I went to the park, or We will go to church. Point behind you for hier or ahead for demain, and say the word.

> **Scripture.** "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy." (Exodus 20:8, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Souviens-toi du jour du repos, pour le sanctifier.* God gave us a day of rest to keep holy. Christians worship on dimanche, the day Jesus rose from the dead. It is the Lord's day.

UNIT 4

À Table

In Lesson 4.1 your child learns fruits, la pomme, la poire, la banane, l'orange, la fraise, and says J'aime les pommes (I like apples), with Paul Cézanne's still life of apples, and the verse in which God gives fruit to eat.

In Lesson 4.2 your child sits down to a French breakfast, le pain, le beurre, la confiture, le lait, le chocolat chaud, says merci and s'il te plaît, and learns the line of the Lord's Prayer about daily bread. The unit ends with a French breakfast at home.

PREREQUISITES

- Units 1–3.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can name five fruits in French.
- ☐ I can say J'aime… and Je n'aime pas…
- ☐ I can name bread, butter, jam and milk in French.
- ☐ I can say s'il te plaît and merci at the table.

OPTIONAL BOOKS AND RESOURCES FOR THIS UNIT

- **WordReference French–English dictionary**: Free online, for the parent. Look up any word and press the speaker button to hear it said by a speaker from France or Quebec.

Not required. Every activity in this unit works with paper, pencil, scissors and the free links below. School Launch is independent and free.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

4.1	**J'aime les Fruits**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes
4.2	**Le Petit Déjeuner**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes

Unit 4 review

Ask each question out loud; use real fruit if you can. The review is worth 20 points.

1. **5 pts**
   Name these fruits in French: apple, banana, strawberry.

2. **5 pts**
   Say I like apples in French.

3. 5 pts

   Name bread and milk in French.

4. 5 pts

   Ask for bread politely and say thank you.

ANSWER KEY

1. La pomme, la banane, la fraise.
2. J’aime les pommes.
3. Le pain, le lait.
4. Le pain, s’il te plaît. Merci!

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: A FRENCH BREAKFAST

Set the table for a French breakfast: bread or toast, butter, jam, fruit and milk or hot chocolate. Say a prayer of thanks first. Then ask for each thing in French with s’il te plaît, and say merci when you get it. Tell the family which foods you like: J’aime…

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Foods	Names at least five foods in French.
Manners	Uses s’il te plaît and merci every time.
Likes	Says J’aime… at least twice.
Thanks	Begins with a prayer of thanks.

UNIT 4 · À TABLE · LESSON 4.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

4.1 J’aime les Fruits

OBJECTIVES

- Name five fruits in French.
- Say J’aime… (I like…) and Je n’aime pas… (I don’t like…).
- Look closely at a painting of apples.

> **Warm-up.** Put some fruit on the table, or pictures of fruit. Which is your favorite? Today you learn to name them in French.

WATCH

J'aime les fruits - alain le lait (I like fruits)

tialela99 · 1:53

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nJ03KjwiIVM

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Hold up each fruit (or its picture) when it is sung.

Note: A two-minute fruit song by Alain Le Lait.

KEY TERMS

la pomme (lah PUM)
The apple.

la poire (lah PWAHR)
The pear.

la banane (lah bah-NAHN)
The banana.

la fraise (lah FREZ)
The strawberry.

j'aime (ZHEM)
I like; I love.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Standard French sounds: most last letters are quiet (but c, r, f and l usually speak), on, an and in are hummed through the nose, and the capitals show where to lean: the last sounded syllable.

la pomme
lah PUM
la · food
apple

la poire
lah PWAHR
la · food
pear

la banane
lah bah-NAHN
la · food
banana

l'orange
loh-RAHNZH
la · food
orange

la fraise
lah FREZ
la · food
strawberry

j'aime
ZHEM
phrase
I like

CORE IDEAS

The story. Paul Cézanne was a painter from the south of France who loved to paint apples. He would set a few apples on a table with a white cloth and a jug, and then look at them for a long time, days and even weeks, painting slowly. He wanted to show how round and solid and heavy they were. Once he said he wanted to astonish Paris with an apple! Painters all over the world learned from his apples. And who made the apples? God did, on the third day, when He made every tree that bears fruit.

How French sounds. In pomme, the o is short and the e is quiet: PUM. In poire, oi says wah: PWAHR. In fraise, the s between vowels buzzes: FREZ. J'aime sounds like ZHEM.

Say it and move. Rub your tummy and smile: **J'aime les pommes!** Shake your head and frown: **Je n'aime pas...** Pretend to peel a banana: **la banane!** Pick a strawberry from the ground: **la fraise!**

PICTURE STUDY



Still Life with Apples, Paul Cézanne, 1893–94 · Oil on canvas · J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Cézanne set up his apples, cloths and jars very carefully, sometimes propping the fruit up with coins so it would sit just right. Then he painted slowly, building each apple out of little patches of color, red, yellow, green, so it looks round and heavy. The table even seems to tip a little toward us, as if he wanted us to see every apple.

Look closely

- Count the apples you can see.
- Which colors are the apples?
- Find the white cloth. Is it smooth or wrinkly?
- Find the little white pot with flowers on it. What do you think is inside?

Talk about it

1. Which apple would you pick to eat?
2. Set up some fruit on a cloth and look at it closely. What do you notice?

ACTIVITY

Fruit still life

Set up your own still life like Cézanne and draw it, with French labels.

You will need

- Three or four pieces of fruit, a cloth or napkin
- Paper and crayons or colored pencils

Steps

1. Put a cloth on the table and arrange the fruit on it.
2. Look closely: what colors do you see on each fruit?
3. Draw the fruit and the cloth.
4. A parent writes the French names next to each fruit: la pomme, la poire…
5. Then eat one and say J'aime la pomme!

Tips

- Look for more than one color on each fruit, like Cézanne.
- Sign your picture like a painter.

Check your work

- ☐ My drawing has at least three fruits.
- ☐ Each fruit has its French name.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw five fruits. A parent writes la pomme, la poire, la banane, l'orange and la fraise. Put a heart next to the ones you like.

> **From history.** In French, a potato is a pomme de terre, an apple of the earth.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can go to the market or grocery store and name every fruit they see in French, and read the labels.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. How do you say I like strawberries?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Strawberries are les fraises.
2. I like is j'aime.

Answer: J'aime les fraises.

Example 2. What fruit is yellow and long?

▼ **Show solution**

1. That is a banana.
2. Banana is la banane.

Answer: La banane.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say apple in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La pomme.

2. Easy Say pear in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La poire.

3. Easy Say strawberry in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La fraise.

4. Medium Say I like bananas in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   J'aime les bananes.

5. Medium Say I don’t like pears in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Je n’aime pas les poires.

6. Hard Name five fruits in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La pomme, la poire, la banane, l’orange, la fraise.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying pomme like pome. It is short: PUM.
- Forgetting the little ne… pas around aime: Je n’aime pas.

> **Make it a game · Fruit basket.** Each player is a fruit: la pomme, la poire, la banane. Sit in a circle. When the caller says a fruit, those players swap seats. When the caller says Corbeille de fruits! (fruit basket!), everyone swaps.

> **Scripture.** “And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.” (Genesis 1:29, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *tout arbre ayant en lui du fruit d’arbre et portant de la semence: ce sera votre nourriture.* God gave people the fruit of the trees for food. Every apple and strawberry is a gift from Him.

UNIT 4 · À TABLE · LESSON 4.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

4.2 Le Petit Déjeuner

OBJECTIVES

- Name breakfast foods in French: le pain, le beurre, la confiture, le lait, le chocolat chaud.
- Ask politely with s’il te plaît and answer merci.
- Say the prayer line Give us this day our daily bread.

> **Warm-up.** What did you eat for breakfast today? Today you learn what French children eat for breakfast, and how to ask for it politely.

WATCH

Au petit déjeuner - Alain Le Lait (Breakfast)

tialela99 · 1:37

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d5U4kDDBCVA

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Point to each breakfast food as it is sung.

Note: A short breakfast song by Alain Le Lait.

KEY TERMS

le pain (luh PAN)
The bread.

le beurre (luh BUHR)
The butter.

la confiture (lah kohn-fee-TÜR)
The jam.

le lait (luh LAY)
The milk.

s’il te plaît (seel tuh PLAY)
Please (to a friend or family member).

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Standard French sounds: most last letters are quiet (but c, r, f and l usually speak), on, an and in are hummed through the nose, and the capitals show where to lean: the last sounded syllable.

le pain
luh PAN
le · food
bread

le beurre
luh BUHR
le · food
butter

la confiture
lah kohn-fee-TÜR
la · food
jam

le lait
luh LAY
le · food
milk

le chocolat chaud
luh shoh-koh-LAH SHOH
le · food
hot chocolate

s’il te plaît
seel tuh PLAY
polite word
please

CORE IDEAS

The story. In France, many children eat a simple breakfast: a piece of crusty bread called a baguette, with butter and jam, and a bowl of hot chocolate for dunking the bread. Every morning, someone in the family walks to the boulangerie, the bakery, to buy fresh bread, still warm. When Jesus taught His disciples to pray, He told them to ask God, Give us this day our daily bread. Every loaf is a gift from God, and it is good to say merci to Him before we eat.

How French sounds. In pain, the ain is hummed through the nose: PAN. In lait, the t is quiet: LAY. In s’il te plaît, the little hat on the î does not change the sound: seel tuh PLAY.

Say it and move. Tear a pretend baguette: **le pain!** Spread butter: **le beurre!** Spoon jam: **la confiture!** Drink from a big bowl: **le lait!** Hold out your hand nicely: **s’il te plaît!** Bow your head: **merci!**

ACTIVITY

Café menu

Make a little French breakfast menu and play café.

You will need

- A folded sheet of paper
- Crayons

Steps

1. On the front, a parent writes Le Petit Déjeuner and you decorate it.
2. Inside, draw bread, butter, jam, milk and hot chocolate.
3. A parent writes the French names under each picture; trace them.
4. Play café: one person orders with s'il te plaît, the other serves and the customer says merci.

Tips

- Use toy food or real bread.
- Take turns being the waiter.

Check your work

☐ My menu has five foods with French names.

☐ I used s'il te plaît and merci.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw a breakfast table. A parent writes le pain, le beurre, la confiture and le lait. Write merci at the top.

> **From history.** The long thin French loaf is called a baguette, which means a little stick or wand. French bakers bake millions of baguettes every day.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can learn s'il vous plaît for grown-ups and strangers, and ask for each food at the family table in French all week.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. You want the bread. What do you say?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Name the food: le pain.
2. Add please: s'il te plaît.

Answer: Le pain, s'il te plaît.

Example 2. Someone gives you milk. What do you say?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Say thank you.

Answer: Merci!

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say bread in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le pain.

2. Easy Say milk in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le lait.

3. Easy Say please to a friend in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   S'il te plaît.

4. Medium Ask for jam politely.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La confiture, s'il te plaît.

5. Medium What is a boulangerie?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   A bakery.

6. Hard Name four breakfast foods in French and say which you like.

▼ **Show answer**

Le pain, le beurre, la confiture, le lait (or le chocolat chaud); J'aime…

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying the t in lait. It is quiet: LAY.
- Forgetting merci. Every French table uses it.

> **Make it a game · Pass the bread.** Sit at the table with toy or real food. Ask for something in French with s'il te plaît. The person who passes it waits for merci before letting go!

> **Scripture.** "Give us this day our daily bread." (Matthew 6:11, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain quotidien;* Jesus taught us to ask God for our daily bread, notre pain quotidien. When we eat, we thank the One who gives it.

UNIT 5

Vêtements et Météo

In Lesson 5.1 your child learns clothes, le manteau, le pantalon, la robe, le chapeau, les chaussures, and dresses a paper doll in French, with Jesus' words about the lilies of the field, which God clothes more beautifully than a king.

In Lesson 5.2 your child asks Quel temps fait-il? (What is the weather?) and answers il fait beau, il pleut, il neige, il fait chaud, il fait froid, with Gustave Caillebotte's painting of a rainy day in Paris. The quarter ends with a weather report and a dress-up show.

PREREQUISITES

- Units 1–4.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can name five clothes in French.
- ☐ I can ask Quel temps fait-il?
- ☐ I can say il fait beau, il pleut, il neige, il fait chaud and il fait froid.
- ☐ I can choose clothes for the weather and say them in French.

OPTIONAL BOOKS AND RESOURCES FOR THIS UNIT

- **WordReference French–English dictionary**: Free online, for the parent. Look up any word and press the speaker button to hear it said by a speaker from France or Quebec.

Not required. Every activity in this unit works with paper, pencil, scissors and the free links below. School Launch is independent and free.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

5.1	**Les Vêtements**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes
5.2	**Quel Temps Fait-il?**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes

Unit 5 review

Ask each question out loud. The review is worth 20 points.

1. **5 pts**
   Name these clothes in French: coat, hat, shoes.

2. **5 pts**
   Quel temps fait-il? Look outside and answer.

3. **5 pts**
   It is raining. What do you say? It is snowing. What do you say?

4. 5 pts

It is cold. Which clothes do you put on? Name two in French.

ANSWER KEY

1. Le manteau, le chapeau, les chaussures.
2. Il fait beau / il pleut / il neige / il fait chaud / il fait froid (whatever is true).
3. Il pleut. Il neige.
4. Le manteau, le chapeau (or other warm clothes).

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: THE WEATHER REPORT AND DRESS-UP SHOW

Be a TV weather reporter! Stand by a window or a drawn map and say Bonjour! Quel temps fait-il? Aujourd'hui, il fait… Then dress a doll, a teddy bear or yourself for the weather, naming each piece of clothing in French. End with Au revoir!

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Weather	Says the weather correctly in French.
Clothes	Names at least four clothes in French.
Review	Uses bonjour, aujourd'hui and au revoir.
Confidence	Speaks clearly like a reporter.

UNIT 5 · VÊTEMENTS ET MÉTÉO · LESSON 5.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

5.1 Les Vêtements

OBJECTIVES

- Name five clothes in French.
- Dress a paper doll in French.
- Hear what Jesus said about the lilies of the field.

> **Warm-up.** Look at what you are wearing today. Name each piece in English. Today you learn the French names.

WATCH

Les vêtements - Alain LeLait (clothes in French)

tialela99 · 2:20

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JDidxfQ4qB4

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Touch each piece of clothing you are wearing as it is sung.

Note: A two-minute clothes song by Alain Le Lait.

KEY TERMS

le manteau (luh mahn-TOH)
The coat.

la robe (lah RUB)
The dress.

les chaussures (lay shoh-SÜR)
The shoes.

le pantalon (luh pahn-tah-LOHN)
The trousers; pants.

le chapeau (luh shah-POH)
The hat.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Standard French sounds: most last letters are quiet (but c, r, f and l usually speak), on, an and in are hummed through the nose, and the capitals show where to lean: the last sounded syllable.

le manteau
luh mahn-TOH
le · clothes
coat

le pantalon
luh pahn-tah-LOHN
le · clothes
trousers; pants

la robe

lah RUB

la · clothes

dress

le chapeau

luh shah-POH

le · clothes

hat

les chaussures

lay shoh-SÜR

les · clothes

shoes

la chemise

lah shuh-MEEZ

la · clothes

shirt

CORE IDEAS

The story. One day Jesus sat on a hillside and taught a great crowd. He said, Do not worry about what you will wear. Look at the lilies of the field! They do not work and they do not sew, and yet even King Solomon in all his glory was not dressed like one of them. If God dresses the flowers so beautifully, He will surely take care of you. So we can get dressed each morning with thankful hearts: God gives us what we need.

How French sounds. In manteau and chapeau, the eau at the end says oh: mahn-TOH, shah-POH. In pantalon, both an and on are hummed. In chaussures, the u is the French ü: round your lips as for oo and say ee.

Say it and move. Put on a pretend coat: **le manteau!** Step into pants: **le pantalon!** Twirl in a dress: **la robe!** Tip your hat: **le chapeau!** Tie your shoes: **les chaussures!**

ACTIVITY

Paper doll wardrobe

Make a paper doll and paper clothes, and dress it in French.

You will need

- Paper or thin cardboard, crayons, scissors (a parent helps)
- Tape or sticky putty

Steps

1. Draw a simple doll and cut it out.
2. Draw and cut out a coat, trousers, a dress, a hat and shoes.
3. A parent writes the French name on the back of each piece.
4. Dress the doll, saying each piece out loud: Voici le manteau!

Tips

- Make clothes for hot days and cold days.
- Keep the pieces in an envelope for next lesson.

Check your work

☐ My doll has five clothes.

☐ I can name each one in French.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw yourself dressed for church on Sunday. A parent writes the French names of your clothes with arrows.

> **From history.** A French beret is a soft, round, flat hat. Shepherds in the mountains of southern France wore them long ago, and now people everywhere think of the beret as a French hat.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can say what they are wearing each morning: Je porte un pantalon bleu (I am wearing blue trousers).

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. What do you wear on your head? Say it in French.

▼ **Show solution**

1. We wear a hat.
2. Hat is le chapeau.

Answer: Le chapeau.

Example 2. What do you put on your feet?

▼ **Show solution**

1. We put on shoes.
2. Shoes are les chaussures.

Answer: Les chaussures.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say coat in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le manteau.

2. Easy Say dress in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La robe.

3. Easy Say hat in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le chapeau.

4. Medium Say shoes in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Les chaussures.

5. Medium What did Jesus say about the lilies?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   They do not work or sew, yet God dresses them more beautifully than King Solomon.

6. Hard Name five clothes in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le manteau, le pantalon, la robe, le chapeau, les chaussures.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying the eau in chapeau as two sounds. It is just oh.
- Saying robe like the English robe. It is short: RUB.

> **Make it a game · Dress-up relay.** Put a pile of big clothes at one end of the room. A parent calls out le chapeau! Run, put it on, and run back. Keep going until you are wearing everything, then take it off one by one, naming each piece.

> **Scripture.** "And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:" (Matthew 6:28, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Considérez comment croissent les lis des champs: ils ne travaillent ni ne filent;* Jesus told us to look at the lilies of the field. God dresses the flowers, and He takes care of us too.

UNIT 5 · VÊTEMENTS ET MÉTÉO · LESSON 5.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

5.2 Quel Temps Fait-il?

OBJECTIVES

- Ask Quel temps fait-il? (What is the weather?).
- Answer il fait beau, il pleut, il neige, il fait chaud, il fait froid.
- Choose clothes for the weather in French.

> **Warm-up.** Look out the window. Is it sunny, rainy, hot or cold? Today you learn to say it in French.

WATCH

Quel temps fait il? - Alain Le Lait

tialela99 · 1:44

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eBvJVOuBPXI

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Act out each kind of weather as it is sung.

Note: A short weather song by Alain Le Lait.

KEY TERMS

Quel temps fait-il? (kel tahn feh-TEEL)
What is the weather like?

il fait beau (eel feh BOH)
It is nice out.

il pleut (eel PLUH)
It is raining.

il neige (eel NEZH)
It is snowing.

il fait chaud / froid (eel feh SHOH / FRWAH)
It is hot / cold.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Standard French sounds: most last letters are quiet (but c, r, f and l usually speak), on, an and in are hummed through the nose, and the capitals show where to lean: the last sounded syllable.

quel temps fait-il?
kel tahn feh-TEEL
question
what is the weather like?

il fait beau
eel feh BOH
weather
it is nice out

il pleut

eel PLUH

weather

it is raining

il neige

eel NEZH

weather

it is snowing

il fait chaud

eel feh SHOH

weather

it is hot

il fait froid

eel feh FRWAH

weather

it is cold

le parapluie

luh pah-rah-PLWEE

le · thing

umbrella

CORE IDEAS

The story. Gustave Caillebotte lived in Paris when the city was being rebuilt with wide new streets and tall cream-colored buildings. One rainy day he painted a street corner where the roads meet like the spokes of a wheel. The paving stones shine with rain. A man in a top hat and a lady in a veil walk together under one big umbrella. Other people hurry by under their umbrellas too. If you asked them Quel temps fait-il?, they would say Il pleut! It is raining!

How French sounds. French talks about weather with il fait, it makes: il fait beau, it makes nice; il fait froid, it makes cold. In pleut, round your lips: PLUH. In froid, oi says wah: FRWAH.

Say it and move. Make a sun with your arms: **il fait beau!** Wiggle your fingers down like rain: **il pleut!** Catch snowflakes: **il neige!** Fan yourself: **il fait chaud!** Shiver: **il fait froid!**

PICTURE STUDY



Paris Street; Rainy Day, Gustave Caillebotte, 1877 · Oil on canvas · Art Institute of Chicago

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Caillebotte painted this huge picture of his own neighborhood in Paris. Everything is gray and gleaming with rain: the umbrellas, the stones, the sky. The green lamppost divides the picture in two. The couple in front walk right toward us, as if we are about to bump into them on the sidewalk.

Look closely

- Count the umbrellas you can see.
- Find the green lamppost. What is it for?
- How do you know it is raining?
- Find the carriage wheel far away.

Talk about it

1. What do you wear when it rains?
2. Do you like rainy days? Why?

ACTIVITY

Weather wheel

Make a weather wheel and turn it to today's weather each morning.

You will need

- A paper plate, a paper arrow and a brass fastener (or a pencil point)
- Crayons

Steps

1. Divide the plate into five slices.
2. Draw a sun, rain, snow, a hot sun with a thermometer and a snowman: one in each slice.
3. A parent writes il fait beau, il pleut, il neige, il fait chaud, il fait froid; trace them.
4. Attach the arrow in the middle.
5. Every morning, ask Quel temps fait-il? and turn the arrow.

Tips

- Dress your paper doll from Lesson 5.1 for the weather.
- Keep a weather chart for a week.

Check your work

☐ My wheel shows five kinds of weather.

☐ I can say today's weather in French.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw five little pictures of weather. A parent writes the French under each one.

> **From history.** Paris gets rain on many days of the year, so umbrellas are everywhere. Long ago, umbrella sellers stood on Paris street corners calling out to people caught in the rain.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can draw a weather chart for the week and write one weather sentence each day.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Snow is falling. What do you say?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Snow falling is il neige.

Answer: Il neige.

Example 2. It is very hot. Quel temps fait-il?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Hot is chaud.
2. Say il fait chaud.

Answer: Il fait chaud.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say it is raining in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Il pleut.

2. Easy Say it is nice out in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Il fait beau.

3. Easy Say it is cold in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Il fait froid.

4. Medium Ask what the weather is in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Quel temps fait-il?

5. Medium Il pleut. Which clothes do you need? Name one in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le manteau (or le chapeau).

6. Hard Give a weather report in French: greet, say today's weather and what to wear.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Bonjour! Aujourd'hui, il fait… Mets ton manteau! (or similar).

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying il fait froid as il est froid. For weather, French uses il fait.
- Saying the d in froid. It is quiet: FRWAH.

> **Make it a game · Météo dress-up.** A parent calls out the weather in French: il neige! Grab the right clothes from a pile and put them on: le manteau, le chapeau! Then il fait chaud! Take them off fast!

> **Scripture.** "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." (Genesis 8:22, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Tant que la terre subsistera, les semailles et la moisson, le froid et la chaleur, l'été et l'hiver, le jour et la nuit ne cesseront point.* After the flood God promised that seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, would not stop. Every kind of weather comes from His faithful hand.