FRENCH · GRADE 2 · AGES 7–8

Grade 2 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 2 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 earlier French, though a child who did Kindergarten or Grade 1 will be glad to meet old words again.

This year the child begins to look at written French: the alphabet said the French way, and the accents é, è, ê and ç that tell a reader how to say a word. Then come school things and numbers to twenty, the months and the French words of Christmas, the farm and sea animals (and the funny sounds French animals make), the sun, moon and stars, and finally the first lines of the Notre Père. The paintings are the April page of the Très Riches Heures, Albert Anker's village school, Georges de La Tour's candlelit newborn, Constant Troyon's oxen at dawn and Jules Breton's Song of the Lark.

A parent reads the lesson; the child sings, moves, draws and copies short words into a French notebook. The quarter ends with an evening program of a song and the Lord's Prayer in French.

> 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 2 (about ages 7–8), 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: copying words and short phrases, and reading labels aloud. 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 63 words and phrases. Unit 1: l'alphabet, la lettre, épeler, le livre, le nom, l'école, le père, la mère, la fête, le garçon, l'accent. Unit 2: le cartable, le crayon, le cahier, la gomme, la règle, le livre, j'ai, onze, douze, quinze, seize, dix-sept, vingt, combien?. Unit 3: janvier, mai, juillet, décembre, le mois, l'anniversaire, Noël, la crèche, l'ange, le berger, l'étoile, Joyeux Noël!. Unit 4: la vache, le cochon, le coq, le bœuf, le chien, le chat, fait, la mer, la baleine, le poisson, le dauphin, le crabe, la pieuvre. Unit 5: le ciel, le soleil, la lune, l'étoile, le nuage, la nuit, notre, le Père, les cieux, le nom, le règne, la volonté, Amen.
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

L'Alphabet

The French alphabet and its little marks: the letters sung from A to Z, then the accents é, è, ê and the cedilla ç, with a page from a great hand-painted French prayer book and Jesus, the Word, the Alpha and the Omega.

1.1 De A à Z

1.2 Les Accents

UNIT 2 · WEEKS 3–4

À l'École

School things and numbers to twenty: le crayon, le cahier, la gomme and le livre, then onze to vingt, with Albert Anker's crowded village school and the God who counts the stars.

2.1 Mon Cartable

2.2 Les Nombres de 1 à 20

UNIT 3 · WEEKS 5–6

Les Mois et Noël

The twelve months and Christmas in French: janvier to décembre and the birthday question, then Noël, the crèche, Joyeux Noël and the carol Douce nuit, with Georges de La Tour's candlelit newborn baby.

3.1 Les Mois de l'Année

3.2 Joyeux Noël

UNIT 4 · WEEKS 7–8

Les Animaux

Animals and their French voices: the farm animals say meuh, cocorico and ouaf ouaf, then the creatures of the sea, la baleine, le poisson and le dauphin, with Constant Troyon's oxen walking out at dawn and the great whales God created.

4.1 Les Animaux de la Ferme

4.2 Les Animaux de la Mer

UNIT 5 · WEEKS 9–10

Le Ciel et le Notre Père

The sky and the Lord's Prayer in French: le soleil, la lune, les étoiles, then Notre Père qui es aux cieux, with Jules Breton's barefoot girl stopping in the field at sunrise to listen to a lark, and the heavens that declare the glory of God.

5.1 Le Soleil, la Lune et les Étoiles

5.2 Notre Père

Weekly pacing calendar

WEEK	PLAN
1	• Session 1: Lesson 1.1 De A à Z: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 1.1 activity (my painted letter) and French notebook • 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, sing the week's song and use its words at home.*
2	• Session 1: Lesson 1.2 Les Accents: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 1.2 activity (accent detectives) and French notebook • 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 spelling show)
3	• Session 1: Lesson 2.1 Mon Cartable: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 2.1 activity (pack the cartable) and French notebook • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and a little show for the family
4	• Session 1: Lesson 2.2 Les Nombres de 1 à 20: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 2.2 activity (count the classroom) and French notebook • 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 school-bag show)
5	• Session 1: Lesson 3.1 Les Mois de l'Année: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 3.1 activity (birthday calendar) and French notebook • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and a little show for the family
6	• Session 1: Lesson 3.2 Joyeux Noël: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 3.2 activity (paper crèche) and French notebook • 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 crèche play)
7	• Session 1: Lesson 4.1 Les Animaux de la Ferme: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 4.1 activity (animal sound book) and French notebook • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and a little show for the family
8	• Session 1: Lesson 4.2 Les Animaux de la Mer: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 4.2 activity (ocean in a box) and French notebook • 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 (the animal guessing show)
9	• Session 1: Lesson 5.1 Le Soleil, la Lune et les Étoiles: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 5.1 activity (day and night sky) and French notebook • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and a little show for the family
10	• Session 1: Lesson 5.2 Notre Père: warm-up, story, song and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 5.2 activity (prayer card) and French notebook • 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 evening program)

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 DE A À Z

l'alphabet
lahl-fah-BAY
le · school
alphabet

la lettre
lah LETR
la · school
letter

épeler
ay-puh-LAY
verb
to spell

le livre
luh LEEVR
le · school
book

le nom
luh NOHN
le · word
name

1.2 LES ACCENTS

l'école
lay-KUL
la · school
school

le père
luh PEHR
le · family
father

la mère
lah MEHR
la · family
mother

la fête
lah FET
la · word
party; feast

le garçon
luh gar-SOHN
le · person
boy

l’accent
lahk-SAHN
le · school
accent mark

2.1 MON CARTABLE

le cartable
luh kar-TAHBL
le · school
school bag

le crayon
luh kreh-YOHN
le · school
pencil

le cahier
luh kah-YAY
le · school
notebook

la gomme
lah GUM
la · school
eraser

la règle
lah REHGL
la · school
ruler

le livre
luh LEEVR
le · school
book

j’ai
ZHAY
phrase
I have

2.2 LES NOMBRES DE 1 À 20

onze
OHNZ
number
eleven

douze
DOOZ
number
twelve

quinze

KANZ

number

fifteen

seize

SEHZ

number

sixteen

dix-sept

dee-SET

number

seventeen

vingt

VAN

number

twenty

combien?

kohm-BYAN

question

how many?

3.1 LES MOIS DE L'ANNÉE

janvier

zhahn-VYAY

month

January

mai

MAY

month

May

juillet

zhwee-YAY

month

July

décembre

day-SAHMBR

month

December

le mois

luh MWAH

le · time

month

l'anniversaire

lah-nee-vehr-SEHR

le · time

birthday

3.2 JOYEUX NOËL

Noël
noh-EL
feast
Christmas

la crèche
lah KRESH
la · Christmas
nativity scene; manger

l’ange
LAHNZH
le · Christmas
angel

le berger
luh behr-ZHAY
le · Christmas
shepherd

l’étoile
lay-TWAHL
la · Christmas
star

Joyeux Noël!
zhwah-YUH noh-EL
greeting
Merry Christmas!

4.1 LES ANIMAUX DE LA FERME

la vache
lah VAHSH
la · animal
cow

le cochon
luh koh-SHOHN
le · animal
pig

le coq
luh KOK
le · animal
rooster

le bœuf
luh BUF
le · animal
ox

le chien
luh SHYAN
le · animal
dog

le chat
luh SHAH
le · animal
cat

fait

FEH

verb

says; makes

4.2 LES ANIMAUX DE LA MER

la mer

lah MEHR

la · nature

sea

la baleine

lah bah-LEN

la · animal

whale

le poisson

luh pwah-SOHN

le · animal

fish

le dauphin

luh doh-FAN

le · animal

dolphin

le crabe

luh KRAHB

le · animal

crab

la pieuvre

lah PYUHVR

la · animal

octopus

5.1 LE SOLEIL, LA LUNE ET LES ÉTOILES

le ciel

luh SYEL

le · nature

sky; heaven

le soleil

luh soh-LAY

le · nature

sun

la lune

lah LÜN

la · nature

moon

l’étoile

lay-TWAHL

la · nature

star

le nuage
luh nü-AHZH
le · nature
cloud

la nuit
lah NWEE
la · time
night

5.2 NOTRE PÈRE

notre
NOTR
word
our

le Père
luh PEHR
le · faith
Father

les cieux
lay SYUH
les · faith
the heavens

le nom
luh NOHN
le · word
name

le règne
luh REHNY
le · faith
kingdom; reign

la volonté
lah voh-lohn-TAY
la · faith
will

Amen
ah-MEN
faith
Amen

UNIT 1

L'Alphabet

In Lesson 1.1 your child sings the French alphabet, learns that French uses the same 26 letters as English but says them differently, and spells his or her name aloud in French. The picture is the April page of the Très Riches Heures, a prayer book painted by hand six hundred years ago.

In Lesson 1.2 your child meets the little marks French puts on letters, the accents (é, è, ê) and the cedilla (ç), learns the words école, père, fête and garçon, and hears that Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last. The unit ends with a spelling show.

PREREQUISITES

- None. Kindergarten or Grade 1 French is helpful but not needed.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can sing the French alphabet.
- ☐ I can spell my name aloud in French.
- ☐ I can point to é, è, ê and ç and say how they sound.
- ☐ I can say that Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega.

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	**De A à Z**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes
1.2	**Les Accents**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes

Unit 1 review

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

1. **5 pts**
   Sing or say the French alphabet from A to J.

2. **5 pts**
   Spell your first name aloud in French.

3. **5 pts**
   Point to é and say how it sounds. Then say école.

4. **5 pts**
   What is the little hook under ç called, and what sound does ç make?

ANSWER KEY

1. A (ah), B (bay), C (say), D (day), E (uh), F (ef), G (zhay), H (ash), I (ee), J (zhee).
2. Each letter said the French way.
3. é says ay; ay-KUL.
4. The cedilla (la cédille); it says s, as in garçon.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: THE SPELLING SHOW

Write your name in big letters on a card and decorate it like a page from a hand-painted book, with a colorful first letter. Hold it up and spell it aloud in French. Then spell maman, papa and école for your family, and finish by singing the alphabet song.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Alphabet	Sings the French alphabet.
Name	Spells own name the French way.
Accents	Shows é in école and says it right.
Art	Decorates the first letter carefully.

1.1 De A à Z

OBJECTIVES

- Sing the French alphabet.
- Hear which letters sound very different in French (E, G, H, I, J, R, U, W, Y).
- Spell your own name aloud in French.

> **Warm-up.** Sing the ABC song in English. French uses the very same letters, but it says many of them differently. Listen and find out which ones!

WATCH

French alphabet - L'alphabet en Français by Alain Le Lait

tialela99 · 2:10

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_LYy3P2okyw

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Sing along the second time and point to each letter on an alphabet chart.

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

KEY TERMS

l’alphabet (lahl-fah-BAY)
The alphabet.

la lettre (lah LETR)
The letter.

épeler (ay-puh-LAY)
To spell.

Comment ça s’écrit? (koh-MAHN sah say-KREE)
How is that spelled?

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.

l’alphabet
lahl-fah-BAY
le · school
alphabet

la lettre
lah LETR
la · school
letter

épeler
ay-puh-LAY
verb
to spell

le livre
luh LEEVR
le · school
book

le nom
luh NOHN
le · word
name

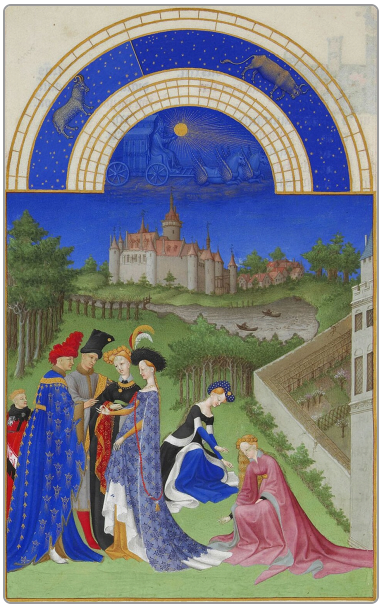
CORE IDEAS

The story. Six hundred years ago there were no printing machines in France. Every book was written by hand, one letter at a time, with a feather pen. A rich duke named Jean de Berry asked three brothers, the Limbourg brothers, to paint him a prayer book. They painted a picture for every month of the year, and they made the first letters of the prayers big and bright with gold and blue. Each letter was a little work of art, because the words were words of prayer to God. The same 26 letters are still in French books today.

How French sounds. Some French letters sound almost like English: B (bay), D (day), F (ef). But listen for the tricky ones: E says uh, I says ee, G says zhay, J says zhee, R comes from the back of the throat, U is the round ü, W is double-vay and Y is ee-GREK, the Greek i!

Say it and move. Sing the alphabet and do a little squat on every vowel: A, E, I, O, U, Y! Then trace each letter in the air with your finger as you sing.

PICTURE STUDY



April, from the Très Riches Heures du duc de Berry, The Limbourg brothers, about 1412–1416 · Paint and gold on parchment · Musée Condé, Chantilly

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

This is one page from a prayer book painted by hand for the Duke of Berry. Each month has its own picture. In April, the grass is new and green, the ladies pick spring flowers, and a young man and woman promise to marry. The blue paint was made from a precious stone called lapis lazuli, ground into powder, and the stars are real gold.

Look closely

- Find the two people exchanging a ring.
- Find the two ladies picking flowers.
- Look at the half-circle at the top. What animals do you see?
- Find the castle. How many towers can you count?

Talk about it

1. Why would someone spend years painting a prayer book?
2. What is your favorite letter? How would you decorate it?

ACTIVITY

My painted letter

Decorate the first letter of your name like a page from the Très Riches Heures.

You will need

- Paper
- Crayons or markers, especially blue and yellow (for gold)

Steps

1. A parent draws the first letter of your name very big, in outline.
2. Fill it with blue and gold, and draw flowers or stars around it.
3. Write the rest of your name after it.
4. Hold it up and spell your whole name in French.

Tips

- Use glitter glue for real sparkle.
- Make one for each person in your family.

Check your work

☐ My letter is big and bright.

☐ I can spell my name in French.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Write the alphabet in your French notebook. Circle the letters that sound very different in French: E, G, H, I, J, R, U, W, Y.

> **From history.** In the Middle Ages, monks and scribes copied books by hand in quiet rooms called scriptoria. Copying one Bible could take years.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can learn the alphabet song and spell the names of everyone in the family.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Spell the name Léa in French.

▼ **Show solution**

1. L says el.
2. É says ay.
3. A says ah.

Answer: El, ay, ah.

Example 2. How does French say the letter J?

▼ **Show solution**

1. J sounds like zhee.

Answer: Zhee.

PRACTICE

1. Easy How does French say the letter A?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Ah.

2. Easy How does French say the letter I?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Ee.

3. Easy How does French say the letter E?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Uh.

4. Medium How does French say G and J?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   G is zhay; J is zhee.

5. Medium Spell papa in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Pay, ah, pay, ah.

6. Hard Spell your first name aloud in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Each letter said the French way.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Mixing up G and J. In French, G is zhay and J is zhee: the opposite of what English ears expect.
- Saying I as eye. In French, I says ee.

> **Make it a game · Letter hunt.** A parent calls out a letter the French way: zhee! Find it on an alphabet chart, a cereal box or a book, and point to it. Then you call a letter for the parent.

> **Scripture.** "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (John 1:1, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Au commencement était la Parole, et la Parole était avec Dieu, et la Parole était Dieu.* John calls Jesus the Word, la Parole. God speaks to us in words, and He gave us letters to write them down.

UNIT 1 · L'ALPHABET · LESSON 1.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

1.2 Les Accents

OBJECTIVES

- Recognize the accents é, è and ê and the cedilla ç.
- Say école, père, fête and garçon.
- Hear that Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega.

> **Warm-up.** Sing the French alphabet from last lesson. Today you learn the little marks French puts on top of (and under) some letters.

WATCH

L'alphabet en chanson - Titounis

Titounis - Comptine bébé - Chanson enfant · 1:44

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nzlx9rEmLB8

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> At the start, to review the alphabet with a second song. Clap on each vowel.

Note: A short alphabet song from the Titounis.

KEY TERMS

l’accent aigu: é (ahk-SAHN ay-GÜ)
The sharp accent. é says ay.

l’accent grave: è (ahk-SAHN GRAHV)
The heavy accent. è says eh.

l’accent circonflexe: ê (seer-kohn-FLEX)
The little hat. ê says eh.

la cédille: ç (say-DEE)
The little hook. ç says s.

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.

l’école
lay-KUL
la · school
school

le père
luh PEHR
le · family
father

la mère
lah MEHR
la · family
mother

la fête
lah FET
la · word
party; feast

le garçon

luh gar-SOHN

le · person

boy

l’accent

lahk-SAHN

le · school

accent mark

CORE IDEAS

The story. The last book of the Bible was written by the apostle John, in Greek. The Greek alphabet begins with alpha and ends with omega. At the very end of the Bible, Jesus says, I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. Before anything was made, He was there, and He will be there forever. Every alphabet, Greek, Latin, English or French, has a first and a last letter, and every one can remind us of Him.

How French sounds. The marks tell you how to say a letter. The sharp accent leans forward: é says ay, as in école (ay-KUL). The heavy accent leans back: è says eh, as in père (PEHR). The little hat ê also says eh, as in fête (FET). The cedilla is a little hook under c: ç says s, as in garçon (gar-SOHN).

Say it and move. Lean your arm forward like / for **é!** Lean it back like \ for **è!** Make a roof with your hands for **ê!** Curl your finger into a hook for **ç!**

ACTIVITY

Accent detectives

Hunt for accents in French words and sort them.

You will need

- A French children’s book, a food label in French, or the word list below
- Four small cards marked é, è, ê, ç

Steps

1. Lay out the four cards.
2. A parent writes these words on slips: école, été, père, mère, fête, forêt, garçon, français.
3. Read each word together and place it under the right card.
4. Say each word out loud with the right sound.

Tips

- Look on a jar of French jam or cheese for more accents.
- Make the accent motions as you read.

Check your work

☐ I sorted eight words.

☐ I can say what sound each mark makes.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Copy é, è, ê and ç in your French notebook, each with one word: école, père, fête, garçon. Draw a little picture beside each.

> **From history.** The cedilla started in Spain, where it meant a little z. French printers began using it about five hundred years ago so readers would know when c says s.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can type the accents on a keyboard or phone and practice writing é, è, ê and ç by hand.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. How do you say école?

▼ **Show solution**

1. é says ay.
2. cole says KUL.

Answer: ay-KUL.

Example 2. Why does garçon say s and not k?

▼ **Show solution**

1. There is a cedilla under the c.
2. ç always says s.

Answer: Because ç says s: gar-SOHN.

PRACTICE

1. Easy What sound does é make?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Ay.

2. Easy What sound does ç make?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   S.

3. Easy What is the little hat on ê called?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   The circonflexe (circumflex).

4. Medium Say père. What does it mean?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   PEHR; father.

5. Medium Say garçon. What does it mean?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   gar-SOHN; boy.

6. Hard What did Jesus mean when He said I am Alpha and Omega?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   He is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; He was before everything and lives forever.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Ignoring the accent. The mark changes the sound: é is ay, but plain e is often uh or silent.
- Saying garçon with a k sound. The cedilla makes it s.

> **Make it a game · Accent Simon says.** A parent says a word, like école, père, fête or garçon. Make the right accent motion as fast as you can: forward arm, back arm, roof or hook!

> **Scripture.** "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last." (Revelation 22:13, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Je suis l'alpha et l'oméga, le premier et le dernier, le commencement et la fin.* Jesus is the first and the last letter of every alphabet: the beginning and the end of all things.

UNIT 2

À L'ÉCOLE

In Lesson 2.1 your child names the things in a school bag, le cartable, le crayon, le cahier, la gomme, la règle, le livre, and learns to say J'ai un crayon (I have a pencil). The picture is Albert Anker's busy village schoolroom, and the verse tells children to hear a father's teaching.

In Lesson 2.2 your child reviews un to dix and counts on to vingt (20), counts school things in French, and hears that God counts the stars and calls them all by name.

The unit ends with a school-bag show.

PREREQUISITES

- Unit 1, or the numbers one to ten from Kindergarten French.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can name six school things in French.
- ☐ I can say J'ai un crayon.
- ☐ I can count from 1 to 20 in French.
- ☐ I can count objects aloud 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

2.1	**Mon Cartable**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes
2.2	**Les Nombres de 1 à 20**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes

Unit 2 review

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

1. **5 pts**
   Point to a pencil, a book and a notebook and name them in French.
2. **5 pts**
   Count from 1 to 10 in French.

3. 5 pts

   Count from 11 to 20 in French.

4. 5 pts

   Say I have an eraser in French.

ANSWER KEY

1. Le crayon, le livre, le cahier.
2. Un, deux, trois, quatre, cinq, six, sept, huit, neuf, dix.
3. Onze, douze, treize, quatorze, quinze, seize, dix-sept, dix-huit, dix-neuf, vingt.
4. J’ai une gomme.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: THE SCHOOL-BAG SHOW

Pack your school bag in French! Take out each thing one by one and say J’ai un crayon! J’ai un cahier! Then count all your crayons in French. If you have more than twenty, count to vingt and stop with a bow.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
School words	Names at least five school things.
J’ai	Uses J’ai un / une.
Counting	Counts to at least 15 correctly.
Show	Speaks clearly to the audience.

UNIT 2 · À L’ÉCOLE · LESSON 2.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

2.1 Mon Cartable

OBJECTIVES

- Name six school things in French.
- Say J’ai un… / J’ai une… (I have a…).
- Hear what the Bible says about listening to a father’s teaching.

> **Warm-up.** What do you need for school? Gather a pencil, a book, a notebook and an eraser. Today you learn their French names.

WATCH

L'école - Apprendre le français

Titounis - Comptine bébé - Chanson enfant · 1:55

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMayODF4pVY

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Hold up each school thing as it is named.

Note: A two-minute song about school from the Titounis.

KEY TERMS

le cartable (luh kar-TAHBL)
The school bag.

le crayon (luh kreh-YOHN)
The pencil.

le cahier (luh kah-YAY)
The notebook.

la gomme (lah GUM)
The eraser.

J’ai… (ZHAY)
I have…

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 cartable
luh kar-TAHBL
le · school
school bag

le crayon
luh kreh-YOHN
le · school
pencil

le cahier
luh kah-YAY
le · school
notebook

la gomme
lah GUM
la · school
eraser

la règle
lah REHGL
la · school
ruler

le livre
luh LEEVR
le · school
book

j'ai
ZHAY
phrase
I have

CORE IDEAS

The story. Long ago, in a little farming village in Switzerland, all the children went to one schoolroom: big ones and small ones together. The painter Albert Anker grew up in such a village. He studied painting in Paris, where he learned to speak French, then went home and painted the schoolroom he remembered. The old schoolmaster walks between the benches with a stick for pointing. Some children read, some write, and some whisper to their neighbors when they should be listening! Their parents sent them to school to learn to read, to count and to know the Bible.

How French sounds. In cahier, the h is silent and ier says yay: kah-YAY. In crayon, ay says eh and on is hummed: kreh-YOHN. French has two words for a: un for le words (un crayon) and une for la words (une gomme).

Say it and move. Swing a bag onto your back: **le cartable!** Write in the air: **le crayon!** Open a notebook: **le cahier!** Rub out a mistake: **la gomme!** Hold up your pencil: **J'ai un crayon!**

PICTURE STUDY



The Village School of 1848, Albert Anker, 1896 · Oil on canvas · Kunstmuseum Basel, Switzerland

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Albert Anker was a Swiss painter who lived for many years in Paris and spoke French. He loved to paint the children of his village. This big painting shows a country school as it was when Anker himself was a boy. Look closely and every child is doing something different: reading, writing, listening or talking.

Look closely

- Find the schoolmaster. What is he holding?
- Find a child reading a book.
- Can you find a child who is not paying attention?
- Count the children on one bench.

Talk about it

1. How is this school like your school? How is it different?
2. Why did parents want their children to learn to read?

ACTIVITY

Pack the cartable

Make a paper school bag and fill it with paper school things labeled in French.

You will need

- A paper lunch bag or an envelope
- Paper, crayons, scissors (a parent helps)

Steps

1. Decorate the bag and label it le cartable.
2. Draw and cut out a pencil, a notebook, an eraser, a ruler and a book.
3. A parent writes the French name on each one, with un or une.
4. Pack the bag, saying J'ai un crayon! for each thing.

Tips

- Use real school things instead of paper ones.
- Unpack it again tomorrow and see what you remember.

Check your work

- ☐ My cartable has five things.
- ☐ I can say J'ai un... for each one.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw your school things in your French notebook and label them with un or une: un crayon, un cahier, une gomme, une règle, un livre.

> **From history.** Long ago, French schoolchildren wrote with a dip pen and a little pot of ink set into a hole in the desk. A drop of ink in the wrong place meant a blot on the page!

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can label their own desk and school things in French with sticky notes.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Say I have a notebook.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Notebook is le cahier, so it takes un.
2. I have is J'ai.

Answer: J'ai un cahier.

Example 2. Say I have an eraser.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Eraser is la gomme, so it takes une.

Answer: J'ai une gomme.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say pencil in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le crayon.

2. Easy Say book in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le livre.

3. Easy Say school bag in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le cartable.

4. Medium Say I have a pencil.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   J'ai un crayon.

5. Medium Is it un gomme or une gomme?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Une gomme.

6. Hard Name five things in your cartable with un or une.

▼ **Show answer**

Un crayon, un cahier, une gomme, une règle, un livre.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying the h in cahier. French h is silent.
- Using un with la words. La words take une: une gomme, une règle.

> **Make it a game · What is missing?.** Lay out five school things and name them in French. Close your eyes while a parent hides one. Open them and say what is missing: le crayon!

> **Scripture.** “My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother:” (Proverbs 1:8, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Écoute, mon fils, l’instruction de ton père, Et ne rejette pas l’enseignement de ta mère;* The Bible tells children to hear the teaching of father and mother. Learning is a way of honoring them.

UNIT 2 · À L’ÉCOLE · LESSON 2.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

2.2 Les Nombres de 1 à 20

OBJECTIVES

- Count from 1 to 20 in French.
- Count school things aloud in French.
- Hear that God counts the stars and names them all.

> **Warm-up.** Count to ten in French if you can: un, deux, trois… Today you go all the way to twenty.

WATCH

Les chiffres et les nombres de 1 a 20 - alain le lait (French numbers from 1 to 20)

tialela99 · 1:53

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UsEz58BblMY

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Count along on your fingers and toes.

Note: A two-minute counting song from 1 to 20 by Alain Le Lait.

KEY TERMS

onze, douze, treize (OHNZ, DOOZ, TREHZ)
11, 12, 13.

quatorze, quinze, seize (kah-TORZ, KANZ, SEHZ)
14, 15, 16.

dix-sept, dix-huit, dix-neuf (dee-SET, deez-WEET, deez-NUF)
17, 18, 19.

vingt (VAN)
20.

Combien? (kohm-BYAN)
How many?

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.

onze
OHNZ
number
eleven

douze
DOOZ
number
twelve

quinze
KANZ
number
fifteen

seize
SEHZ
number
sixteen

dix-sept
dee-SET
number
seventeen

vingt
VAN
number
twenty

combien?
kohm-BYAN
question
how many?

CORE IDEAS

The story. On a clear night, go outside and look up. How many stars can you count? Ten, twenty, a hundred? Long ago Abraham looked up, and God told him, Count the stars, if you can! Nobody can count them all. But the Bible says that God tells the number of the stars, and He calls every one of them by name. The God who knows every star also knows you, and He knows how many hairs are on your head.

How French sounds. From 11 to 16, French has special words: onze, douze, treize, quatorze, quinze, seize. Then it adds: dix-sept is ten-seven, dix-huit is ten-eight, dix-neuf is ten-nine. In vingt, the g and t are quiet: VAN, hummed through the nose.

Say it and move. Count 1 to 10 on your fingers, then 11 to 20 on your toes! Jump on vingt!

ACTIVITY

Count the classroom

Count school things around the house in French and make a counting chart.

You will need

- Paper and a pencil
- Crayons, books, buttons or other small things

Steps

1. Pick five kinds of things: crayons, books, spoons, buttons, chairs.
2. Count each kind aloud in French, up to vingt.
3. Draw each thing and write the number beside it.
4. Ask Combien? and let a parent answer in French.

Tips

- Use a number line from 1 to 20 to help.
- Count up the stairs in French.

Check your work

- ☐ I counted five kinds of things in French.
- ☐ I reached at least 15.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Write the numbers 11 to 20 in your French notebook, with the French word beside each. Draw that many dots for one of them.

> **From history.** On a dark night far from city lights, a person can see a few thousand stars. With a telescope, scientists know there are far more than anyone could ever count.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can count everything in French for a week: steps, spoons, cars and kisses.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. How do you say 17?

▼ **Show solution**

1. 17 is ten and seven.
2. dix + sept.

Answer: Dix-sept.

Example 2. Combien de crayons? (There are 12.)

▼ **Show solution**

1. 12 is a special word.

Answer: Douze.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say 11 in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Onze.

2. Easy Say 15 in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Quinze.

3. Easy Say 20 in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Vingt.

4. Medium Say 18 in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Dix-huit.

5. Medium What comes after treize?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Quatorze.

6. Hard Count backwards from 20 to 10 in French.

▼ **Show answer**

Vingt, dix-neuf, dix-huit, dix-sept, seize, quinze, quatorze, treize, douze, onze, dix.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying the g and t in vingt. It sounds like VAN.
- Mixing up seize (16) and six (6). Seize sounds like SEHZ.

> **Make it a game · Twenty jumps.** Take turns counting in French: each person says one, two or three numbers in a row, jumping once for each. Whoever has to say vingt does a happy dance!

> **Scripture.** "He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names." (Psalm 147:4, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Il compte le nombre des étoiles, Il leur donne à toutes des noms.* God tells the number of the stars and calls them all by name. He knows and cares for everything He made.

UNIT 3

Les Mois et Noël

In Lesson 3.1 your child sings the months of the year, learns to ask C'est quand, ton anniversaire? (When is your birthday?) and answers in French, with the Preacher's words: To every thing there is a season.

In Lesson 3.2 your child learns the French words of Christmas, Noël, la crèche, l'ange, l'étoile, Joyeux Noël, listens to Douce nuit (Silent Night) in French, and studies Georges de La Tour's painting of a newborn baby held in candlelight. The unit ends with a little French crèche play.

PREREQUISITES

- Unit 2 numbers to 20 help with dates.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can say the twelve months in French.
- ☐ I can say the month of my birthday.
- ☐ I can say Joyeux Noël and name the people and things of the crèche.
- ☐ I can tell why Christmas is a feast: the Savior was born.

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	**Les Mois de l'Année**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes
3.2	**Joyeux Noël**	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 months from janvier to juin.
2. **5 pts**
   Say the months from juillet to décembre.

3. **5 pts**
   C’est quand, ton anniversaire?

4. **5 pts**
   What do French families say at Christmas? Name two figures of the crèche in French.

ANSWER KEY

1. Janvier, février, mars, avril, mai, juin.
2. Juillet, août, septembre, octobre, novembre, décembre.
3. C’est en … (the child’s birthday month).
4. Joyeux Noël! Marie, Joseph, Jésus, l’ange, le berger (any two).

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: THE CRÈCHE PLAY

Set up a little crèche (nativity scene) with figures, toys or paper cut-outs. Tell the story in English, but name each figure in French as you put it in place: Voici Marie! Voici Joseph! Voici l’ange! Voici le bébé Jésus! End by singing or humming Douce nuit and saying Joyeux Noël!

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Christmas words	Names at least four crèche figures in French.
Story	Tells the Christmas story in order.
Months	Says that Noël is in décembre.
Joy	Ends with Joyeux Noël.

UNIT 3 · LES MOIS ET NOËL · LESSON 3.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

3.1 Les Mois de l’Année

OBJECTIVES

- Say the twelve months in French.

- Ask and answer C’est quand, ton anniversaire?
- Hear that God made a time for everything.

> **Warm-up.** What month is it now? What month is your birthday? Today you learn the months in French.

WATCH

Les mois de l'année - alain le lait (French months of the year)

tialela99 · 1:49

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_u2SigckNQ

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Stand up when you hear your birthday month.

Note: A short song of the months by Alain Le Lait.

KEY TERMS

le mois (luh MWAH)
The month.

l’année (lah-NAY)
The year.

l’anniversaire (lah-nee-vehr-SEHR)
The birthday.

C’est quand? (say KAHN)
When is it?

en mai (ahn MAY)
In May.

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.

janvier
zhahn-VYAY
month
January

mai
MAY
month
May

juillet
zhwee-YAY
month
July

décembre
day-SAHMBR
month
December

le mois
luh MWAH
le · time
month

l'anniversaire
lah-nee-vehr-SEHR
le · time
birthday

CORE IDEAS

The story. A wise king named Solomon wrote a book called Ecclesiastes. He watched the year turn round: the planting and the harvest, the cold and the heat, the weeping and the laughing. He wrote, To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven. God made the months and the seasons. January is a time for snow, May for flowers, September for school, and December for Christmas.

How French sounds. French months sound a lot like English: janvier, février, mars, avril, mai, juin, juillet, août, septembre, octobre, novembre, décembre. They are written with small letters, not capitals! In août, the a is silent: OOT. In juillet, ill says y: zhwee-YAY.

Say it and move. Shiver for **janvier!** Smell a flower for **mai!** Swim for **juillet!** Rake leaves for **octobre!** Clap and cheer for your birthday month!

ACTIVITY

Birthday calendar

Make a family birthday wheel with the months in French.

You will need

- A paper plate
- Crayons, markers

Steps

1. Divide the plate into twelve slices like a pie.
2. A parent writes the French months in order around the edge.
3. Draw a little picture for each month: snow, flowers, sun, leaves.
4. Write each family member’s name in their birthday month.
5. Ask each person C’est quand, ton anniversaire? and let them answer.

Tips

- Color winter blue, spring green, summer yellow and autumn orange.
- Add Noël in décembre.

Check your work

- ☐ My wheel has all twelve months in French.
- ☐ I can say my birthday month.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Copy the twelve months in your French notebook in small letters. Draw a birthday cake beside your month.

> **From history.** Many French months come from Latin. Septembre once meant the seventh month, because the old Roman year began in March.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can sing Joyeux anniversaire at the next family birthday and say the date in French.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. My birthday is in July. Say it.

▼ **Show solution**

1. July is juillet.
2. Say C'est en juillet.

Answer: C'est en juillet.

Example 2. Which month is Noël?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Christmas is December 25.

Answer: Décembre.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say January in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Janvier.

2. Easy Say May in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Mai.

3. Easy Say December in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Décembre.

4. Medium What month comes after juin?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Juillet.

5. Medium Do French months start with a capital letter?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   No, they are written with small letters.

6. Hard Say all twelve months in order.

▼ **Show answer**

Janvier, février, mars, avril, mai, juin, juillet, août, septembre, octobre, novembre, décembre.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Writing Janvier with a capital. French months use small letters.
- Saying all the letters in août. It sounds like OOT.

> **Make it a game · Month line-up.** Write the months on twelve cards and mix them up. Race to put them in order, saying each one in French. Time yourself and try to beat it!

> **Scripture.** "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:" (Ecclesiastes 3:1, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Il y a un temps pour tout, un temps pour toute chose sous les cieux:* God made a time for everything: the months, the seasons and the feasts. Every month is a gift from Him.

UNIT 3 · LES MOIS ET NOËL · LESSON 3.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

3.2 Joyeux Noël

OBJECTIVES

- Name the figures of the crèche in French.
- Say Joyeux Noël and sing or hum Douce nuit.
- Tell why Christmas is a feast: a Savior is born.

> **Warm-up.** What do you see in a nativity scene? Name everyone in English. Today you learn their French names.

WATCH

Douce Nuit Sainte Nuit | Silent Night Holy Night

Learn French With Alexa · 1:52

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

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Listen to Douce nuit, sainte nuit, the French Silent Night, then hum along.

Note: The carol Silent Night sung in French, from Learn French With Alexa, about two minutes.

KEY TERMS

Noël (noh-EL)
Christmas.

l'ange (LAHNZH)
The angel.

Joyeux Noël! (zhwah-YUH noh-EL)
Merry Christmas!

la crèche (lah KRESH)
The nativity scene; the manger.

le berger (luh behr-ZHAY)
The shepherd.

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.

Noël
noh-EL
feast
Christmas

la crèche
lah KRESH
la · Christmas
nativity scene; manger

l’ange

LAHNZH

le · Christmas

angel

le berger

luh behr-ZHAY

le · Christmas

shepherd

l’étoile

lay-TWAHL

la · Christmas

star

Joyeux Noël!

zhwah-YUH noh-EL

greeting

Merry Christmas!

CORE IDEAS

The story. On the night Jesus was born in Bethlehem, shepherds were watching their sheep in the fields. Suddenly an angel stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone all around. The angel said, Fear not! Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. The shepherds ran to Bethlehem and found Mary, Joseph and the baby lying in a manger. In France, families set up a crèche with little clay figures called santons: Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, the angel, the ox and the donkey, and on Christmas Eve they place the baby Jesus in the manger.

How French sounds. Noël has two dots on the e, which tell you to say the o and the e separately: noh-EL. In ange, an is hummed and ge says zh: LAHNZH. In Joyeux, oy says wah-y: zhwah-YUH.

Say it and move. Spread your wings: **l’ange!** Hold a shepherd’s crook: **le berger!** Rock a baby: **Jésus!** Point up to a star: **l’étoile!** Throw your arms up: **Joyeux Noël!**

PICTURE STUDY



The Newborn Child, Georges de La Tour, about 1645–1648 · Oil on canvas · Musée des Beaux-Arts, Rennes

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Georges de La Tour was a French painter who loved to paint night scenes lit by a single candle. Here the candle is hidden behind the older woman's hand, so the light seems to come from the baby. Many people believe the young mother is Mary and the baby is Jesus, with Mary's mother, Saint Anne, beside her. There are no halos, only the light, and the quiet wonder of a mother looking at her child.

Look closely

- Find the baby. How is the baby wrapped?
- Where is the candle? Can you see the flame?
- What color is the mother's dress?
- Is this picture noisy or still?

Talk about it

1. Why do you think the painter made the baby the brightest thing?
2. What does the light make you think of at Christmas?

ACTIVITY

Paper crèche

Make a little paper crèche with figures labeled in French.

You will need

- Paper or card, crayons, scissors (a parent helps)
- A shoebox for a stable (optional)

Steps

1. Draw and cut out Marie, Joseph, le bébé Jésus, l'ange, un berger, un mouton and l'étoile.
2. A parent writes the French name on each figure.
3. Fold a strip at the bottom so each figure stands up.
4. Set up the crèche, naming each one: Voici Marie!
5. Place baby Jesus last and say Joyeux Noël!

Tips

- Make an ox (le bœuf) and a donkey (l'âne) too.
- Use this crèche for the unit show.

Check your work

☐ My crèche has at least six figures with French names.

☐ I can tell the story of the first Christmas.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw the crèche in your French notebook. Label Marie, Joseph, Jésus, l'ange and l'étoile. Write Joyeux Noël at the top.

> **From history.** In Provence, in the south of France, families make or collect santons, little painted clay figures, for their Christmas crèche. Besides Mary, Joseph and the shepherds, there are bakers, fishermen and grandmothers from the village, all coming to see the baby.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can learn the whole first verse of Douce nuit and sing it for the family on Christmas Eve.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Who told the shepherds the good news? Say it in French.

▼ **Show solution**

1. An angel told them.
2. Angel is l'ange.

Answer: L'ange.

Example 2. What do French families say on December 25?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Merry is joyeux; Christmas is Noël.

Answer: Joyeux Noël!

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say Christmas in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Noël.

2. Easy Say angel in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   L'ange.

3. Easy Say shepherd in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le berger.

4. Medium What is a crèche?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   A nativity scene (or the manger).

5. Medium What are santons?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Little clay figures for the French crèche.

6. Hard Tell what the angel said to the shepherds, then say Merry Christmas in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Fear not! Unto you is born this day a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Joyeux Noël!

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying Noël as one sound (nole). The two dots split it: noh-EL.
- Saying ange with a hard g. It is soft: LAHNZH.

> **Make it a game · Where is the angel?.** Hide the crèche figures around the room. A parent calls one in French: le berger! Find it and bring it to the crèche. Baby Jesus comes last of all.

> **Scripture.** "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:11, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *c'est qu'aujourd'hui, dans la ville de David, il vous est né un Sauveur, qui est le Christ, le Seigneur.* The angel told the shepherds the best news ever told: a Saviour is born, Christ the Lord. That is why Christmas is a feast.

UNIT 4

Les Animaux

In Lesson 4.1 your child names farm animals in French and learns that French animals "speak" differently: a French rooster says cocorico and a French dog says ouaf ouaf. The picture is Constant Troyon's team of oxen going out to plough in the early morning light, and the verse says the cattle on a thousand hills belong to God.

In Lesson 4.2 your child names sea animals, la baleine, le poisson, le dauphin, le crabe, la pieuvre, sings a song about the whale, and hears that God created the great

whales and every living thing that moves in the sea. The unit ends with an animal guessing show.

PREREQUISITES

- None. Kindergarten French animals are a good warm-up.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can name five farm animals in French.
- ☐ I can make three French animal sounds.
- ☐ I can name five sea animals in French.
- ☐ I can say Le chat fait miaou (The cat says meow).

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	**Les Animaux de la Ferme**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes
4.2	**Les Animaux de la Mer**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes

Unit 4 review

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

1. **5 pts**
   Name the cow, the pig and the rooster in French.

2. 5 pts

   What does a French rooster say? A French dog?

3. 5 pts

   Name the whale, the fish and the dolphin in French.

4. 5 pts

   Finish the sentence: La vache fait...

ANSWER KEY

1. La vache, le cochon, le coq.
2. Cocorico! Ouaf ouaf!
3. La baleine, le poisson, le dauphin.
4. Meuh!

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: THE ANIMAL GUESSING SHOW

Wear a paper mask or hold up a drawing, and make a French animal sound. The family guesses which animal you are, in French! Then say it: Je suis la vache. La vache fait meuh! Do at least three farm animals and two sea animals.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Animals	Names at least five animals in French.
Sounds	Makes French animal sounds.
Sentence	Says ...fait... correctly.
Fun	Acts out each animal.

4.1 Les Animaux de la Ferme

OBJECTIVES

- Name five farm animals in French.
- Make the French animal sounds.
- Say La vache fait meuh (The cow says moo).

> **Warm-up.** What does a rooster say? Cock-a-doodle-doo! In France, a rooster says something different. Let's find out what!

WATCH

Apprendre les animaux et leurs cris pour les enfants (Français)

Titounis - Comptine bébé - Chanson enfant · 3:23

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

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Make each animal's sound with the song.

Note: A song of animals and their sounds from the Titounis, about three minutes.

KEY TERMS

la vache (lah VAHSH)
The cow.

le coq (luh KOK)
The rooster.

fait (FEH)
Says; makes.

le cochon (luh koh-SHOHN)
The pig.

le bœuf (luh BUF)
The ox.

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 vache
lah VAHSH
la · animal
cow

le cochon
luh koh-SHOHN
le · animal
pig

le coq
luh KOK
le · animal
rooster

le bœuf
luh BUF
le · animal
ox

le chien
luh SHYAN
le · animal
dog

le chat
luh SHAH
le · animal
cat

fait
FEH
verb
says; makes

CORE IDEAS

The story. Long before tractors, French farmers ploughed their fields with oxen. Very early in the morning, while mist still lay on the ground, the farmer led his oxen out of the barn. The big animals walked slowly but never gave up, pulling the plough all day so that wheat could grow for bread. The painter Constant Troyon loved animals and painted them again and again. God gave us these strong, patient animals, and the Bible says that the cattle upon a thousand hills all belong to Him.

How French sounds. French animals say things differently! La vache fait **meuh** (MUH). Le coq fait **cocorico** (koh-koh-ree-KOH). Le chien fait **ouaf ouaf** (WAF WAF). Le cochon fait **groin groin** (GRWAN). Le chat fait **miaou** (mee-YAH-oo).

Say it and move. Walk on all fours and say **meuh!** Flap your wings and crow **cocorico!** Wag a tail and bark **ouaf ouaf!** Snort like a pig: **groin groin!**

PICTURE STUDY



Oxen Going to Work: Morning, Constant Troyon, 1855 · Oil on canvas · Musée d'Orsay, Paris

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Constant Troyon began as a painter of porcelain and became one of the most famous animal painters in France. He painted the oxen walking toward us with the morning sun behind them, so that their backs shine and their shadows reach across the field. The farmer is small; the animals are the heroes of the picture.

Look closely

- Count the oxen.
- Find the farmer. What is he holding?
- Where is the sun? How can you tell?
- Is it morning or evening?

Talk about it

1. Why were oxen so important to farmers long ago?
2. Which farm animal would you most like to take care of?

ACTIVITY

Animal sound book

Make a little book of farm animals and their French sounds.

You will need

- Three sheets of paper folded and stapled into a book
- Crayons

Steps

1. On each page, draw one farm animal.
2. A parent writes the animal's French name and its French sound in a speech bubble: La vache fait meuh!
3. Trace the words.
4. Read your book aloud, making every sound.

Tips

- Add a horse: le cheval fait hiii!
- Read it to a younger child.

Check your work

☐ My book has at least five animals.

☐ I can read each sound in French.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw a farm in your French notebook with a cow, a pig, a rooster, a dog and a cat. Write each French sound in a speech bubble.

> **From history.** The rooster, le coq, is a symbol of France. You can see a golden rooster on top of many French church steeples, reminding people to wake up and pray, as the rooster reminded Peter.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can visit a farm or zoo and name every animal in French.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Say The rooster says cocorico.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Rooster is le coq.
2. Says is fait.

Answer: Le coq fait cocorico.

Example 2. What does le chien say in French?

▼ **Show solution**

1. A French dog barks ouaf.

Answer: Ouaf ouaf!

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say cow in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La vache.

2. Easy Say pig in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le cochon.

3. Easy What does a French cow say?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Meuh!

4. Medium Say The cat says meow in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le chat fait miaou.

5. Medium What is le bœuf?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   The ox.

6. Hard Name five farm animals and their French sounds.

▼ **Show answer**

La vache: meuh; le coq: cocorico; le chien: ouaf ouaf; le cochon: groin groin; le chat: miaou.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying the q in coq softly. It is a clear k: KOK.
- Using English animal sounds. French animals say meuh, cocorico and ouaf!

> **Make it a game · Who am I?.** One person makes a French animal sound. Everyone else shouts the animal's French name. Whoever is first makes the next sound.

> **Scripture.** "For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills." (Psalm 50:10, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Car tous les animaux des forêts sont à moi, Toutes les bêtes des montagnes par milliers;* Every beast of the forest and the cattle on a thousand hills belong to God. We take care of His animals.

UNIT 4 · LES ANIMAUX · LESSON 4.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

4.2 Les Animaux de la Mer

OBJECTIVES

- Name five sea animals in French.
- Sing a short song about the whale.
- Hear that God created the great whales.

> **Warm-up.** What lives in the sea? Name as many sea animals as you can in English. Today you learn them in French.

WATCH

C'est la baleine

Titounis - Comptine bébé - Chanson enfant · 1:11

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sY_7j93I0GA

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Swim like a whale while you listen.

Note: A one-minute song about the whale from the Titounis.

KEY TERMS

la mer (lah MEHR)
The sea.

la baleine (lah bah-LEN)
The whale.

le poisson (luh pwah-SOHN)
The fish.

le dauphin (luh doh-FAN)
The dolphin.

le crabe (luh KRAHB)
The crab.

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 mer
lah MEHR
la · nature
sea

la baleine
lah bah-LEN
la · animal
whale

le poisson
luh pwah-SOHN
le · animal
fish

le dauphin
luh doh-FAN
le · animal
dolphin

le crabe

luh KRAHB

le · animal

crab

la pieuvre

lah PYUHVR

la · animal

octopus

CORE IDEAS

The story. On the fifth day of creation, God filled the seas with living things. The Bible says, God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly. The blue whale is the biggest animal that has ever lived, longer than two school buses, yet it eats tiny creatures smaller than your fingernail. Dolphins leap and play, crabs walk sideways, and the octopus has eight arms. God saw all of it, and it was good.

How French sounds. In poisson, the double s says s: pwah-SOHN. Be careful: with one s, poison means poison! In dauphin, au says oh and in is hummed: doh-FAN. In baleine, ei says eh: bah-LEN.

Say it and move. Spout water like **la baleine!** Swim with your hands together like **le poisson!** Leap up high like **le dauphin!** Walk sideways like **le crabe!** Wiggle eight arms like **la pieuvre!**

ACTIVITY

Ocean in a box

Make a little ocean scene with sea animals labeled in French.

You will need

- A shoebox or a sheet of blue paper
- Paper, crayons, scissors, string or tape

Steps

1. Color the inside of the box blue like the sea.
2. Draw and cut out a whale, fish, a dolphin, a crab and an octopus.
3. A parent writes the French names on them.
4. Hang them with string or tape them inside.
5. Give a tour: Voici la baleine!

Tips

- Add sand or shells for the sea floor.
- Make the whale the biggest of all.

Check your work

☐ My ocean has five sea animals with French names.

☐ I can name each one.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw a sea with a whale, a fish, a dolphin, a crab and an octopus. Label each one in French. Write la mer at the top.

> **From history.** For hundreds of years, the oldest son of the king of France was called the Dauphin, the Dolphin. The title came from a region called the Dauphiné, whose lords had a dolphin on their coat of arms, and the prince's arms showed a dolphin too.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can learn the whole song C'est la baleine and sing it at the beach or in the bath.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. What is the biggest sea animal? Say it in French.

▼ **Show solution**

1. The biggest is the whale.
2. Whale is la baleine.

Answer: La baleine.

Example 2. Is it poisson or poison for fish?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Fish has a double s.

Answer: Poisson.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say whale in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La baleine.

2. Easy Say fish in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le poisson.

3. Easy Say sea in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La mer.

4. Medium Say dolphin in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le dauphin.

5. Medium On which day did God make the sea creatures?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   The fifth day.

6. Hard Name five sea animals in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La baleine, le poisson, le dauphin, le crabe, la pieuvre.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying poisson with a z sound. Double s says s; poison (one s) means poison.
- Saying the n in dauphin. It is hummed: doh-FAN.

> **Make it a game · Fishing game.** Draw sea animals on paper fish with a paper clip on each. Fish with a magnet on a string. Say the French name of every animal you catch!

> **Scripture.** "And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good." (Genesis 1:21, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Dieu créa les grands poissons.* God created the great whales and every creature in the sea, and He saw that it was good.

UNIT 5

Le Ciel et le Notre Père

In Lesson 5.1 your child names the sun, the moon, the stars, the sky and the clouds in French, sings Brille brille petite étoile (Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star) and studies Jules Breton's Song of the Lark, with the verse The heavens declare the glory of God.

In Lesson 5.2 your child learns the first lines of the Lord's Prayer in French, Notre Père qui es aux cieux, que ton nom soit sanctifié, que ton règne vienne, and sings the old French night song Au clair de la lune. The quarter ends with a little evening program: a song, the prayer and Bonne nuit.

PREREQUISITES

- Units 1–4.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can name the sun, moon, stars, sky and clouds in French.
- ☐ I can sing part of Brille brille petite étoile.
- ☐ I can say the first line of the Notre Père in French.
- ☐ I can say what the Lord's Prayer asks of God.

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	**Le Soleil, la Lune et les Étoiles**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes
5.2	**Notre Père**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes

Unit 5 review

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

1. **5 pts**
   Name the sun, the moon and a star in French.

2. **5 pts**
   What color is le ciel on a sunny day? Say it in French.

3. 5 pts

   Say the first line of the Lord's Prayer in French.

4. 5 pts

   Who taught us the Lord's Prayer? What does Notre Père mean?

ANSWER KEY

1. Le soleil, la lune, une étoile.
2. Bleu: le ciel est bleu.
3. Notre Père qui es aux cieux.
4. Jesus; Our Father.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: THE EVENING PROGRAM

Invite the family to a little evening program. Show a picture of the night sky you drew and name the moon and stars in French. Sing Brille brille petite étoile or Au clair de la lune. Then fold your hands and say the first lines of the Notre Père in French, and end with Bonne nuit!

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Sky words	Names at least four things in the sky in French.
Song	Sings a French song.
Prayer	Says Notre Père qui es aux cieux reverently.
Review	Ends with bonne nuit or au revoir.

UNIT 5 · LE CIEL ET LE NOTRE PÈRE · LESSON 5.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

5.1 Le Soleil, la Lune et les Étoiles

OBJECTIVES

- Name the sun, moon, stars, sky and clouds in French.
- Sing part of Brille brille petite étoile.

- Hear that the heavens declare the glory of God.

> **Warm-up.** Go to a window. What do you see in the sky? Today you learn to name it all in French.

WATCH

Brille Brille Petite Étoile

Titounis - Comptine bébé - Chanson enfant · 1:55

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

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> After the story. Make twinkling hands as you sing.

Note: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star in French, from the Titounis, about two minutes.

KEY TERMS

le ciel (luh SYEL)
The sky; heaven.

le soleil (luh soh-LAY)
The sun.

la lune (lah LÜN)
The moon.

l'étoile (lay-TWAHL)
The star.

le nuage (luh nü-AHZH)
The cloud.

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 ciel
luh SYEL
le · nature
sky; heaven

le soleil
luh soh-LAY
le · nature
sun

la lune

lah LÜN

la · nature

moon

l’étoile

lay-TWAHL

la · nature

star

le nuage

luh nü-AHZH

le · nature

cloud

la nuit

lah NWEE

la · time

night

CORE IDEAS

The story. Very early one summer morning, a young girl walked barefoot to the wheat field with her sickle to begin the harvest. The sun was just rising, big and red, over the village. Suddenly, high above her, a little bird called a lark began to sing. She stopped and stood still to listen. The painter Jules Breton, who grew up among the farm families of northern France, painted her at that very moment. King David wrote, The heavens declare the glory of God. The sun, the sky and the singing bird all praise their Maker.

How French sounds. In soleil, eil says ay: soh-LAY. In lune, the u is the round French ü: LÜN. In étoile, oi says wah: ay-TWAHL. The word ciel means both sky and heaven.

Say it and move. Make a big circle with your arms: **le soleil!** Make a little curve: **la lune!** Twinkle your fingers: **les étoiles!** Float your hands like **un nuage!** Reach up high: **le ciel!**

PICTURE STUDY



The Song of the Lark, Jules Breton, 1884 · Oil on canvas · Art Institute of Chicago

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Jules Breton painted the farm families of his village in northern France all his life. This girl has come out at dawn to cut the wheat, but she has stopped to listen to a lark singing high above. We cannot see the bird. We only see her face, lifted up, listening. Many people have loved this painting because it shows how beauty can stop us in the middle of our work.

Look closely

- Find the sun. Is it rising or setting?
- What is the girl holding?
- Is she wearing shoes?
- Where do you think the bird is?

Talk about it

1. What sounds do you hear early in the morning?
2. What would make you stop and listen?

ACTIVITY

Day and night sky

Make a picture with a day sky on one side and a night sky on the other.

You will need

- A sheet of paper folded in half
- Crayons, star stickers if you have them

Steps

1. On the left, draw a blue sky with le soleil and des nuages.
2. On the right, color the sky dark and draw la lune and les étoiles.
3. A parent writes the French names; trace them.
4. Write le jour (day) on the left and la nuit (night) on the right.
5. Show your picture and name everything in French.

Tips

- Count the stars in French.
- Hang it near your bed.

Check your work

☐ My picture shows five sky words in French.

☐ I can name them.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw the sky in your French notebook and label le ciel, le soleil, la lune, une étoile and un nuage. Copy one line of the song.

> **From history.** The lark sings while flying straight up into the sky, sometimes so high that people can hear it but cannot see it. That may be why we cannot see the bird in Breton's painting.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking children can look at the night sky together and name the moon and stars in French before bed.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. What shines at night and changes shape? Say it in French.

▼ **Show solution**

1. The moon changes shape.
2. Moon is la lune.

Answer: La lune.

Example 2. Name what twinkles in the song.

▼ **Show solution**

1. A little star twinkles.
2. Star is étoile.

Answer: Petite étoile.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say sun in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le soleil.

2. Easy Say moon in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   La lune.

3. Easy Say star in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   L’étoile.

4. Medium What two things can le ciel mean?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Sky and heaven.

5. Medium Say cloud in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Le nuage.

6. Hard What does the Bible say the heavens declare? Name three things in the sky in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   The glory of God; le soleil, la lune, les étoiles (or le ciel, les nuages).

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying the l in soleil hard. eil says ay: soh-LAY.
- Saying lune like loon. Round your lips and say ee: LÜN.

> **Make it a game · Jour et nuit.** When a parent says le soleil! stand up tall and bright. When they say la lune! curl up and pretend to sleep. Les étoiles! twinkle your fingers. Go faster and faster!

> **Scripture.** "To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David. The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork." (Psalm 19:1, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Les cieux racontent la gloire de Dieu, Et l'étendue manifeste l'œuvre de ses mains.* The sun, the moon and the stars tell everyone how great and good God is.

UNIT 5 · LE CIEL ET LE NOTRE PÈRE · LESSON 5.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

5.2 Notre Père

OBJECTIVES

- Say the first lines of the Lord's Prayer in French.
- Know what Notre Père, ton nom, ton règne and ta volonté mean.
- Sing the old French night song Au clair de la lune.

> **Warm-up.** Say the Lord's Prayer in English together. Today you learn how French children begin the very same prayer.

WATCH

Au Clair De La Lune (French Traditional) - alain le lait

tialela99 · 2:07

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

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> At the end, after the prayer, as a quiet song for evening.

Note: The traditional French song Au clair de la lune (By the Light of the Moon), sung by Alain Le Lait, about two minutes.

KEY TERMS

Notre Père (NOTR PEHR)
Our Father.

qui es aux cieux (kee ay oh SYUH)
who art in heaven.

que ton nom soit sanctifié (kuh tohn NOHN swah sahnk-tee-FYAY)
hallowed be thy name.

que ton règne vienne (kuh tohn REHNY VYEN)
thy kingdom come.

Amen (ah-MEN)
Amen.

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.

notre
NOTR
word
our

le Père
luh PEHR
le · faith
Father

les cieux

lay SYUH

les · faith

the heavens

le nom

luh NOHN

le · word

name

le règne

luh REHNY

le · faith

kingdom; reign

la volonté

lah voh-lohn-TAY

la · faith

will

Amen

ah-MEN

faith

Amen

CORE IDEAS

The story. One day the disciples watched Jesus praying. When He finished, they said, Lord, teach us to pray. And Jesus gave them the prayer we call the Lord's Prayer. It begins, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. All over the world, in hundreds of languages, Christians pray these same words every day. French children pray it too: Notre Père qui es aux cieux.

How French sounds. Cieux is the plural of ciel: the heavens. Say SYUH with rounded lips. In règne, gne sounds like the ny in canyon: REHNY. In sanctifié, every syllable is clear: sahnk-tee-FYAY.

Say it slowly. Fold your hands. A parent says one line in French, and you repeat it: **Notre Père qui es aux cieux, / que ton nom soit sanctifié, / que ton règne vienne, / que ta volonté soit faite sur la terre comme au ciel.** Then say the whole prayer in English and end with Amen.

ACTIVITY

Prayer card

Make a beautiful card with the first lines of the Notre Père to keep by your bed.

You will need

- A piece of card or heavy paper
- Crayons or markers, gold or yellow for decoration

Steps

1. A parent writes Notre Père qui es aux cieux, que ton nom soit sanctifié, que ton règne vienne in neat letters in the middle.
2. Decorate the border with stars, a moon and a sun.
3. Make the N of Notre big and gold, like a page from the Très Riches Heures in Unit 1.
4. Read it aloud each night this week.

Tips

- Add the next line, que ta volonté soit faite.
- Make a second card for a grandparent.

Check your work

- ☐ My card has the first lines of the prayer in French.
- ☐ I can say them from memory or by reading.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Copy Notre Père qui es aux cieux in your French notebook in your best handwriting. Draw a starry sky above it.

> **From history.** Au clair de la lune is one of the oldest songs French children know. It is about a friend knocking at Pierrot's door by moonlight to borrow a pen, because his candle has gone out.

> **At home in French.** French-speaking families can pray the whole Notre Père together in French at dinner or bedtime.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. What does Notre Père mean?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Notre means our.
2. Père means father.

Answer: Our Father.

Example 2. What does aux cieux mean?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Cieux is the plural of ciel.
2. Aux cieux means in the heavens.

Answer: In heaven.

PRACTICE

1. Easy What does Notre Père mean?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Our Father.

2. Easy Who taught us the Lord's Prayer?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Jesus.

3. Easy Say Amen.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Amen.

4. Medium Say the first line of the prayer in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Notre Père qui es aux cieux.

5. Medium What does que ton règne vienne mean?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Thy kingdom come.

6. Hard Say the first three lines of the Notre Père in French.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Notre Père qui es aux cieux, que ton nom soit sanctifié, que ton règne vienne.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying the x in cieux. It is silent: SYUH.
- Rushing the prayer. Say it slowly and reverently; it is talking to God.

> **Make it a game · Prayer echo.** Not a race: a quiet game. A parent whispers one line of the Notre Père, and you whisper it back. Then a little louder, then in a clear voice. End together with Amen.

> **Scripture.** “After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.” (Matthew 6:9, KJV)
>
> In the French Bible of Louis Segond (1910), this verse reads: *Notre Père qui es aux cieux! Que ton nom soit sanctifié;* Jesus taught us to call God our Father and to pray that His name be honored as holy.