

Tips on how to increase exposure to the French language using family time and technology – 4 yrs to 10 yrs

- 1) Make a plan on how you will try to increase exposure and try to stick to it. Exposure can be both what the child hears and what the child produces. It's easier to find activities where the child is listening to the French language, but we need to make sure that the child is also USING the French language on a daily basis.
- 2) Download French applications for tablets or other handheld devices to provide your child with more exposure. Here are a few examples of educational apps to get you started:

Peekaboo Barn



Peekaboo Barn
Education

Jeux pour lire



Jeux pour lire
avec Sami et...
Games

Nighty Night!



Nighty Night!
Books

Nighty Night Circus



Nighty Night Circus
Education

Nighty Night Forest



Apprendre à lire - Syllabique



Qui est-ce? / Who is it?



French Words for Kids



- 3) Listen to these 4 episodes of The Parle Podcast with your children to increase the use of French vocabulary.



- a) [Robust Vocabulary Instruction in French for Anglophone Parents](#)
- b) [Robust Vocabulary Instruction for Anglophone Parents: Banana and Chocolate Chip Muffins with Sarah and Julianne](#)
- c) [Robust Vocabulary Instruction in French for Anglophone Parents: Raft challenge with Sarah and Julianne](#)
- d) [Robust Vocabulary Instruction in French for Anglophone Parents: Chin faces with Sarah and Julianne](#)

- 4) Listen to educational French Podcasts with your children.



“La puce à l’oreille” is a French podcast in the form of documentaries, targeting kids and pre-teens.



“Petits curieux” is a French podcast answering different questions. Targets kids aged 7 to 12 years old.



“Les p’tites histoires” is a French podcast featuring short stories. Targeted population: 6 to 10 years old.



“Une balade en balado avec Arthur l’aventurier » is a French podcast that will bring your child on an adventure with animals.

- 5) Watch television in French.
 - a. Many movies or TV shows on Netflix can be watched in French.
- 6) Watch educational television shows in French.
 - a. Some educational shows can be found on <https://ici.tou.tv/categorie/jeunesse>



Demande donc à Rosalie



Les trésors d'Arthur l'Aventurier



Oniva!



Sciences ou magie

- 7) Organize a Zoom meeting with your child’s friends
 - a. You will find a few conversation themes that can be used for structure during the meeting on the resources page of my website: <https://www.theparlepodcast.com/printable-pages.html>
 - b. Here are the links to French “treasure hunts” around the house
 - i. Chambre à coucher / *Bedroom*
 1. <https://www.thinglink.com/scene/1318228847111438338>
 - ii. Cuisine / *Kitchen*
 1. <https://www.thinglink.com/scene/1319352292780015617>
 - iii. Salon / *Living room*
 1. <https://www.thinglink.com/scene/1319355042074984449>

- 8) Listen to Audio books in French. Audible, Inc. is a great resource.
http://www.audible.com/t1/30trial_at?source_code=PDTGBPD060314004R

There are 406 French kids' audio books on this website. This way, even if you don't feel comfortable reading to your child in French, you can provide exposure by downloading French audiobooks. Audible, Inc has a free application for hand held devices (Apple, Android, Kindle, Windows Phone). However, you need to pay a monthly fee to download audiobooks (approximately 15\$/month).

You can sign-in to your Audible account using your Amazon username and password. These audio books can even be played in your car via Bluetooth for the entire family to hear! If your child prefers to look a book while listening to it, you can find most books at your local library.

- 9) You can also listen to a book in French while you follow along in English. The following website: Global Storybooks portal has hundreds of books available in various languages for free. <https://storybookscanada.ca/stories/fr/>

- 10) Here are a few tips for bilingual families



Explain the importance of the heritage language in your home.



Make a plan and stick to it.



Have resources available in the heritage language: books, music, TV shows, movies. Set your electronic tablet's language (ex. iPad) to the target language.



Introduce culture in your life: plays, festivals, food, holidays, travel, etc.



Talk with grandparents/family who speak the target language as much as possible (ex. Skype, Facetime, Zoom, messaging).



Introduce new vocabulary in the target language by having a word of the week (or check out The Parlé Podcast episodes for ideas).

- 11) For more information on the acquisition of the French language:

a. <https://www.theparlepodcast.com/index.html>

12) Try to make sure that your child is spending 40 to 60 % of his or her waking hours in French. This is not easy in an English dominant community. See the following [form](#) to see what your percentages look like in both languages.

13) Last but not least, HAVE FUN finding creative ways to increase your child's exposure to the French language!

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