

How can I help my child learn French?

1. Take an interest: Ask your child what they are learning in class. Stay connected to class by checking out Madame's Blog/web site: www.yorkschoools.org/~scarbonneau Follow Madame on Twitter! Fan her on Facebook!
2. Ask your child to practice flash cards with you and/or siblings. Use flash cards on a regular basis perhaps before bedtime, in the car, after dinner or during commercials. This is a great way to reinforce vocabulary!
3. Try to speak the language with your child. Ability level does not matter it is the comfort level that fosters proficiency. At the dinner table with the entire family is a great way for your child to demonstrate and teach what he/she is learning in class.
4. Have your child teach you the material being learned. One of the best ways to master material is to have to teach it to someone else.
5. Watch and Listen! Due to York's proximity to Canada and the wonders of the ever changing digital world , we are fortunate to have access to French speaking channels, web sites and more! Changing the language on DVDs of his or her favorite movies will allow your child to have more contact hours. Even if they don't understand everything, watching and listening is an excellent way to train the ear to the rhythm and pronunciation of the language being studied and increase fluency. Reading newspapers, subtitles and magazines is also a great idea to help become familiar with the people, places and culture of the francophone world.
6. Use the MLTI laptop: Encourage your child to use the text's software, which is loaded on your student's laptop, to practice current lessons. There are many different games and grammar quizzes to try out and practice. Students can even work on listening and speaking by watching the video clips from the CD-ROM as well as by using the Garage Band program. Have students practice Madame's activities on www.quia.com and <http://quizlet.com/> (See links on Madame's web site.)
7. Use the on-line textbook and web site: Students can access the Bien dit! Text by clicking the link on Madame's site. Students will be given a user name and password.

8. Travel and use the language: *IF the opportunity arises to travel to a French speaking country, allow your child the experience of total immersion in the language/culture. 8th grade students will be given the opportunity to visit Québec City in February.*
9. Enjoy the experience: *It is understandable that your child may not enjoy French class all the time, but please encourage your child to get the most out of each class. Participate in every activity and seek help as needed. Keeping an open mind will aid your student in working to the best of their ability.*
10. Seek extra help as needed. *Falling behind or feeling lost will cause your child to feel overwhelmed and prevent your child from mastering the French language. Help is always available to those that ask! Regular help sessions will be established at the beginning of the year and all are welcome!*
11. Study with a Peer: *Encourage your child to find a study buddy. Maybe you?*
12. Monitor the homework: *Homework or rather “home lessons” are meant to reinforce and review the day’s learning. Check that your child has completed the assignment. Attempting the assignment **the night it is assigned** will allow time for your child to ask questions before the assignment is due. Homework assignments are **posted on Madame’s web site** www.yorkschoools.org/~scarbonneau and should also be written in his/her planner.*

Don’t forget to visit Madame’s web site!

www.yorkschoools.org/~scarbonneau

There is a page just for parents!

Check Power School often.

Fan Madame on Facebook!

Follow her on Twitter!