

Introduction to the MfL Teachers Toolkit

Rationale

The Candleby Lane Teaching School MfL project team set out to devise a toolkit for teachers to use between weekly language lessons (which are often delivered by specialists). The resources are intended for non-specialists and many include sound to help with pronunciation. We hope that this will empower teachers to spend time on language learning and consolidation rather than on resourcing appropriate materials for their children. The aim is that children are repeatedly exposed to small amounts of language throughout the week.

These resources have been created for teachers to use in 5 minute or 10 minute slots any time during the day. Currently the topics included are numbers, shapes, colours, daily routines and some suggestions for weather activities. These were chosen as a starting point as being most relevant in day to day school life for a large proportion of teachers and children. They are not exhaustive but aim to help teachers who, perhaps, are less confident in speaking or in their knowledge of the vocabulary or structure of the language to engage with their children in the foreign language (French) through easy activities. Equally, the activities are designed to motivate children in their language learning, to encourage them to engage in the language and to deepen and embed their language learning. We want the children to have fun and enjoy their language learning whilst taking some of the "pressure" off teachers. Resources are not IT based but focus on hands-on games and activities.

Included in the "kit" is a powerpoint on "*Daily activities*" and some birthday posters and calendars (*Bon Anniversaire poster green, blue and pink; sae Le calendrier et les idées, sae Le calendrier des anniversaires pour la classe*) for teachers to choose from to display in their classroom to help practise dates and celebrate children's birthdays. The powerpoint is intended to help teachers to use common phrases, praise words and games in French at any time of the day. Additional games such as on slide (3) *Pierre papier ciseaux* (Rock, paper scissors), board games and sample maths activities are found on this powerpoint which can become part of the daily routine if desired.

The file "*classroom language and instructions*" is multi-purpose:

- 1) as a display resource in your classroom
- 2) to remind children of what activity they are doing next in their daily routine



- 3) to remind children of the respect they should have for others (Respect code)
- 4) flashcard games with classroom instructions/praise words
- 5) Prompts for (and examples of) the game: Jacques a dit.

N.B. Most **Teacher led** activities can be **children led** once confidence has been built.

Flashcards/mini cards: A range of flashcards (picture/text/number) is available to print off (and laminate) so that a number of simple flashcard games can be played to reinforce language learning.

Resource files:

Les saisons

classroom language and instructions

colour bingo

colour flashcards

Les mois du calendrier

number practice and games older children (years 3 - 6)

number practice and games younger children (years 1 and 2)

Teacher led

Splat - particularly popular with fly swatters. Can be played as a whole class in two teams or with a caller and children in pairs against each other so that everyone is playing at the same time. Loto boards, snap cards, happy family cards could be used for pairs of children for this game. Alternatively you could print off slides with multiple pictures e.g. "colour flash cards" slides 25 - 31, enlarge to A3 size and use as a splat board one between two. Flashcards on the white board are fine for the team game. This powerpoint includes slides designed for this game. See also "colours and animals" "Les mois du calendrier" (moving splat) *sae number practice and games younger children (years 1 and 2)*, *sae SPLATpg*

Teacher led

Le voleur: Different ways of playing this: Children sit in a circle.
Step 1: Name all the cards together as you place them inside the circle. Ask children to find a card and turn it over. Ask them to find it and turn it the right way up again.
Step 2: Play the game - either Teacher or nominated child turns over a card whilst the rest of the children have their eyes closed ("Fermez les yeux"). When ready, teacher/child calls out "Ouvrez les yeux" and the class has to guess which card is missing or turned over - *Quelle couleur manque?*
Alternatively, blutack the cards to the board and play in the same way.

Teacher led

Stations. Place flashcards around the room. Divide the class into small groups for this game otherwise too many children are in one place at the same time.

Give a group an instruction e.g. Yellow table: trouvez le cochon. Red table: trouvez le bleu, Green table: cherchez le numéro dix, etc. If you are competent, give the full instructions in French.

Children led

Children work in pairs : One child makes a sequence with mini colour cards or orally for his/her partner to find the correct text cards and order them correctly.

Children led

Children work in groups: One child is the caller of the sequence. The rest of the group races to see who can get the answer the quickest. The winner takes over as caller, or children can take it in turns.

Teacher led

Easy: Blotac the picture flashcards to the board and read out the sequence. e.g. bleu, rouge, jaune, gris, marron, noir.

Children must place their text cards in the same sequence. Only put the text cards on the board once the children have had time to look and decide.

Alternatively, ask a child to put his/her text card on the right colour.

More challenging: Read out the sequence. Children order their text cards. Ask children to provide both the colour card (from your pile) and the text card from theirs and blotac them to the board for the rest of the class to check.

Teacher led

Cherchez le couleur/l'animal/le numéro etc. (best played in a big space). Two teams line up opposite each other with a selection of coloured objects or flashcards in the middle. Give each team member a number making sure that you start at different ends of each line so that same numbers are diagonal to each other not opposite. Call out a colour/animal word and a number. The two children with that number race to pick up the colour flashcard/object. Points are scored for each team.

Teacher led

Pass the parcel

Sit the children in a circle. Play some French music and pass round a bag containing items of different colours (or colour flash cards/text cards - level according to year group). When the music stops the child holding the bag takes out an item. The child on his/her left and his/her right then compete with

him/her to name the colour. That way there are always 3 children participating in the guessing and, hopefully, one will get it right. Place that item/card in the middle and carry on playing the game.

Teacher led

Salade de fruits (Fruit Salad) - can be used with any vocabulary, phrases etc. that need to be learnt. Good for revision or a short activity. Children stand in a circle. Teacher hands out cards (e.g. mini colour flashcards - you will need enough for 30 children, say 5 of each colour you are practising.)

Instructions: Choose a colour: Les bleus/rouges/verts/jaunes/noirs etc. and add "changez de place." When you want them all to change just say "Salade de couleurs"; if you are playing this game with numbers "Salade de numéros" etc.

Teacher led

Musical treasure hunt: Can be played as individuals or in teams. Spread pictures, flash cards, realia etc. around the room (ideally more than one of each item of vocab). Play some music. When the music stops, the children have to find as many copies of the "word" you have called out that they can. In a small space, having groups, e.g. table groups is easier to manage with one child from each group (pre-number each child) having a go each time.

Teacher led

Les cartes:

Choose 8 children to stand in front of the class. Each child has a flashcard. All the cards are named together as a whole class (so no one is put on the spot). The teacher taps a child on the shoulder or points to him/her and he/she turns around or turns their card so no one can see it. Everyone names all the cards again including the one they can't see. Repeat until the children are reciting all the cards from memory. This can be used with any theme/suitable vocabulary including sentence building and parts of speech.

Teacher led

Mettez de l'ordre:

Choose your picture and/or text cards

Give each child a flashcard from your sentence or sequence and ask them to get into the right order according to what they hear.

e.g. a) Teacher says "bleu, rouge, noir, blanc, violet" then children arrange themselves in the right order.

b) trois, cinq, dix, un, douze

c) J'aime le petit papillon blanc.

d) J'aime le grand cochon rose.

If you want the whole class to do this at the same time in groups you will need more sets of cards.

Harder challenge: More words to listen to and vary the topic

e.g. rouge, cinq, bleu, noir, dix, blanc

dix, vingt, violet, jaune, trente, cinquante, noir

deux, il fait beau, vert, orange, il pleut, quatre

Resource files: *colour sequence challenge* provides an example using cards or white boards rather than children holding flashcards.

Quel animal manque? **Resource files:** "*colours and animals*"

Quel mois manque? **Resource files:** "*Les mois du calendrier*" (slide 24)

Board Games: See the following files:

Children led

Snakes and Ladders:

Resource files:

"*alphabet practice and games older children*" - see slides 28 and 30 for the board games. (*Snakes and Ladders, multiples of 5 snakes and ladders*)

Card Games: See the following files:

Children led

Group work: **Happy Families**. Print out the cards and make up sets for children to play the game.

Resource files:

"*New Revising numbers 1 to 10 Older children*"

"*colours happy familiespg*"

Children led

Independent Pair work: Simple **snap** games using sets of colours, text cards, animal pictures, numbers etc. according to the year group/class/ability. Slides can be printed out, cut up and laminated to provide a simple class game and 5 minute filler.

Resource files:

"*colour snap pg*"

Le Morpion - Noughts and Crosses

"*Noughts and Crosses multi themed*"

Heads down thumbs up

"number practice and games older children"

Bingo/Loto

Teacher led

Colour/animal/number bingo: using pre-laminated Loto cards. A confident child can take over from the class teacher, sticking the colour card up on the board after he/she has called it out. (Easy to check answers afterwards)

Resource files:

"calculation bingo"

"colour bingo"

"number practice and games younger children" (years 1 and 2)

Number challenges:

"short exercise numbers" (multiples of 2,5,9,10 and challenges for years 1 and 2)

Other Games:

Teacher led

Le Détective or Cherchez l'objet. Vocab practice: Easy game the children like to play. On the board you will have a slide or have written vocab you want the class to practise. Practise in a chant and rhythm all the words/phrases pointing with a pointing stick and changing up and down the board with the children following you. Eg. Rouge, rouge, rouge, rouge - move down to jaune, jaune, jaune, jaune, jaune, change again and so on. Pick a detective and send him/her out of the room. Hide an item somewhere in the classroom. When the detective returns he/she must find the item. The class chant the words (as practised) and get louder when the detective is close to the object and softer when further away. The teacher moves up and down the board depending on what she/he wants the children to practise most. This can get noisy but it is a great way to chorally practise vocab. NB. Children must be focussed on you, not the child looking for the hidden item otherwise you will end up doing most of the spoken work!

Resource files:

Teacher led (best always teacher led unless your children are very sensible.)

Play on a soft surface (grass is good).

Variation on previous flashcard game (Cherchez le couleur, numéro etc.). If you



are playing with numbers you might decide to put a bean bag in the middle between the two teams. Children are only allowed to use one hand to pick it up. The other hand must remain behind their back. If they get to the bean bag at the same time they can decide what to do - grab it and run back to their place for a point or touch the other player for a draw. If they decide to grab and run their opposite can touch them before they get back to their place for a draw. This can get very competitive and a bit boisterous! Most children love it. Make sure you have a fair scorer who keeps up!

Drawing and Design: CC Mathematics: **SHAPES** - See the following files:

Resource files:

Dessine un robot pair work easy

Dessine un robot pair work

Dessinez avec des forms oiseau

Dessinez un chat avec des formes

Dessinez un château

espace intro to petit livre

mon petit livre d'espace

Other activities: e.g. Songs/Raps/Finger rhymes/Language correction/Mini book/weather chart/birthday chart/dictation

Frère Jacques song can be used as a model for the children to create their own version of the song using the grid. (**Sarah load the grid**)

Resource files: *"Musical Maths en français"*

KAL challenge: (Knowledge about language challenge)

Write up some sentences on the white board for children to correct e.g. six ours blanc would become six ours blancs. Trois chemises vert would become Trois chemises vertes. This will help them with agreements both in the singular and plural. (Yrs 4 - 6)

Resource files:

Dictation:

Resource files

"alphabet practice and games older children"

"colour sequence challenge"

Quelle saison?:

Resource files *"Les saisons"*



Jacques a dit or Total elimination

Resource files "[classroom language and instructions](#)" slides 51 to 56

Le telephone chinois: Chinese Whispers - can be played with any vocabulary.

Le pendu: Hangman. Any vocabulary.

Mots brouillés - can be played with words or phrases.

Musical pictures/hoops: Play some French music. When the music stops call out a picture (previously arranged in the room/hall) and children must go to that picture/hoop.

La guillotine: Have a picture of a guillotine and sets of words/phrases cut across the middle. The children have to match tops and bottoms from a small pile.

