

# **-WELCOME TO THE PRIMARY FRENCH CURRICULUM-**

**DR. ERIC JACKMAN INSTITUTE OF CHILD STUDY  
LAB SCHOOL -  
OISE - UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO**



At the Dr. Eric Jackman Institute of Child Study Lab School, the Primary French program uses a combination of the Accelerated Integrated Method (AIM), also called the gesture Approach, and traditional learning methods. AIM allows children to acquire and internalize French words through gestures and repetition, taught in a developmentally appropriate way. The goal of the teacher is to make learning French a fun and safe experience for all types of learners.

## **Junior kindergarten**

Students participate in French classes twice a week, with each session lasting 30 minutes. The primary objective of this early learning program is to create a positive and enriching educational experience that captivates students' interest and connects to their everyday lives. Throughout the year, students will be introduced to essential vocabulary, including common greetings, colours, shapes, numbers, animals, and seasons. To enhance their learning and retention, we incorporate engaging songs and story readings, which not only reinforce vocabulary acquisition but also make the process of learning French enjoyable and appealing. This approach aims to foster a love for the language and encourage active participation, setting a strong foundation for their future language studies.

## Senior kindergarten

In addition to exploring the French language through oral communication, engaging games, songs, and interactive activities, this year, students will focus on fundamental concepts such as counting to 20, identifying shapes, and colours. As part of our program, we also introduce basic literacy skills in French, including recognizing letters, sounds, and simple words. This fundamental literacy will support their future language learning and academic success. Students will meet with the French teacher three times a week for 30-minute sessions, and throughout the year, they will develop various themes related to school, home, family, seasons, and special occasions, further enriching their language learning experience.

## Grade Two

Students engage with the French teacher four times a week, with each session lasting 30 minutes. The class is organized into two distinct groups, allowing for more focused instruction. Throughout the academic year, students will enhance their proficiency in the key communication modes outlined in language teaching standards: comprehension, listening, speaking, and reading and writing. In addition to these foundational skills, students will delve into the phonological aspects of consonants and vowels, which will include the creation and elaboration of short poems. This year, they will also continue their participation in the AIM (Accelerative Integrated Methodology) program, which emphasizes interactive and immersive language learning. A specific highlight of the curriculum will be the exploration of the story "Les trois petits cochons" (The Three Little Pigs) through the Histoires en action component, further enriching their understanding of the language and culture.

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## Grade one

Students engage with the French teacher four times a week for 30-minute sessions. The curriculum encompasses essential topics such as greetings, the days of the week, months, seasons, and counting up to 30. Additionally, students will expand their vocabulary through thematic units that include classroom objects, body parts, seasons, special occasions, and animals. Fundamental aspects of French phonetics and spelling will also be introduced, along with the concepts of "féminin" and "masculin." At this level, the Gesture Approach will be utilized more extensively to enhance language acquisition. This year, students will begin the AIM program "Histoires en Action," focusing on the story of "La poule Maboule" to further accelerate their proficiency in French as a second language.

