



ISSN (E): 2181-4570

## TEACHING METHODS OF FRENCH LANGUAGE TO PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

**Bukhara state university teacher of French filology**

**Khalimova Makhbuba Turakulovna**

### ABSTRACT

This article refers that the teaching methods of foreign language as well as French, we will come up with some problems where is most often in primary school students

**Key words:** funny activities, confidence, FluentU, “Puppet Day”, Le Pendu (Hangman), rewards,

### INTRODUCTION

#### **The 3 Keys to Teaching French to Elementary Students**

##### **1. Make It Fun Adding Variety to Your Curriculum**

Introduce colored puppets. Elementary school students enjoy colors and objects, and puppets can become incredible French language ambassadors. Be mindful of the characters you choose: there is a big difference between students based on age.

Younger children around 5 respond better to simple, colorful puppets with dramatized voices. Those closer to 10, however, tend to prefer characters like those they recognize from cartoons. Characters should have personality, but be a bit more realistic. A good way to introduce puppets is to have a puppet show in class: ask students to work on a puppet theater to create anticipation and gather the class together when it is ready. Ideally, create short stories that you can continue week after week. Make Friday “Puppet Day” (or name the day after the puppets starring in the show!). While taking the stage, be sure that the puppets interact with students: ask questions about their days, summarize last week’s stories, have students name the characters and describe what they’re wearing, etc. This is a low-pressure way to get your students excited about the show and engaged.

Use songs. They’re a great way to bring your classroom together and encourage your shyest students to open up. Most importantly, they’re a fantastic learning tool. That’s because songs provide an opportunity to learn French words and sentences through repetition, while rhythm and beat aid memory.

Again, be mindful of the type of content you are choosing and only pick age-appropriate songs. Do not hesitate to look for animated songs on YouTube when





teaching younger students. This article features some fantastic options for this audience. Opt for videos with lyrics with older students: this will enable them to practice reading and increase their familiarity with French spelling. For them, a good follow-up activity is to have a dictation based on the lyrics of the song.

**You can also find a variety of songs with corresponding lyrics on FluentU.**

FluentU takes authentic videos—like music videos, movie trailers, news and inspiring talks—and turns them into personalized language lessons.

Tell stories. Elementary school children become captivated when told stories. Stories capture their sense of imagination and allow them to dream and discover new worlds. Be mindful of age and fluency level when picking a storyline: keep it simple for younger students and complexify your plot and vocabulary for older students. However, be sure to always engage your audiences properly.

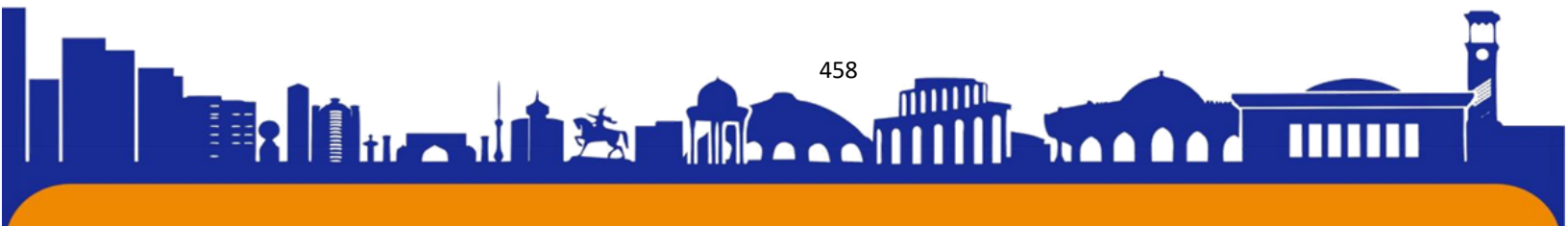
Introduce new words and idioms before telling the story: write them on the board, use translations and pictures or act them out so students can understand them. Then, have students participate in the stories by frequently asking them what they believe the next “scene” could be. This way, you’re building the story together and introducing new elements that keep them enthused.

### **Playing Games**

Gros comme, petit comme (Big like, small like). This is a fun word game to teach comparison. To start, gather your class in a circle. Your students will have to complete the fixed sentence “Gros comme + noun, petit comme + noun,” filling the blanks with any word of their choice. This will push them to use their imaginations. Encourage them to change their voices to mimic the object or animal they mention to give the game more punch.

Le Pendu (Hangman). As you probably already know, this is an exciting letter game to practice the alphabet and discover or activate words and sentences. If you need a refresher, this article details the rules and how you can draw the hangman.

Students need to guess missing letters to find the correct word. If they guess correctly, place the letter(s) in the appropriate blank(s). Don’t require them to specify accents: if your students select the letter “e,” you may consider it an acceptable entry for “é,” “è,” “ê” or “ë.” Any incorrect guess brings them closer to the gallows. Keep track of scores and reward the students who have guessed the most letters and words!





Je vais dans la jungle et j’apporte... (I’m going to the jungle and I bring...) This is a thrilling memorization game to learn plenty of vocabulary and how to use “je” (I) in French. The game is simple but fun and challenging.

Begin by completing the above sentence (for example: a book). Gather students in a circle and ask each student to finish the sentence without stumbling. The student sitting next to the player must repeat each object that was previously mentioned and give a new one.

## **2. Manage Expectations**

### **Using Rewards**

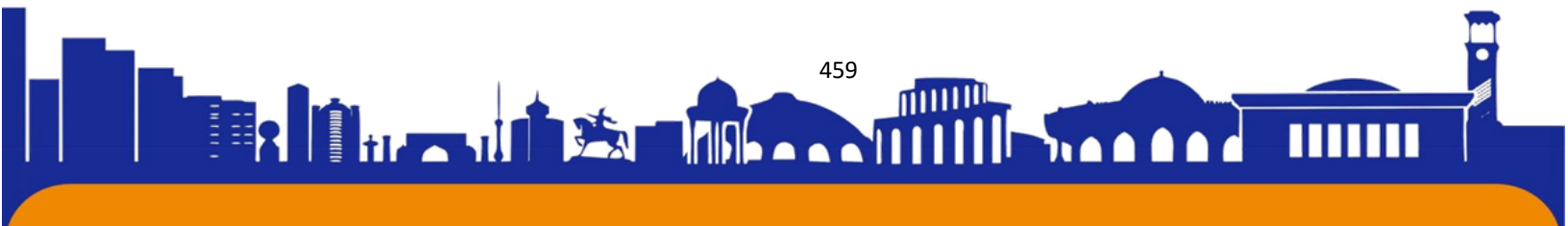
Hand out small items to reward productive students and encourage their peers to participate. As much as possible, be sure that the rewards are aligned with their interests and what you’ve studied in class. For example, a great reward could be a toy version of the hero of your storytelling activities or their favorite French book. Don’t forget to congratulate them when giving them the prize: they’ve earned it!

Place a different object on students’ desks when they’re not working appropriately or are disobeying classroom rules (being loud, chewing gum, being rude).

For example, you could use a stop sign with the words “pas autorisé” (not authorized) or “interdit” (forbidden). This will ensure that they understand that it’s all right to move around, but that they need to be mindful of the classroom etiquette. It will also teach them to respect you and keep the peace without you having to police them. Incorporate no-grade assignments into your curriculum, such as a book report to encourage reading or a classroom debate on a topic students have to research. These activities encourage student curiosity and self-study. That’s because they promote learning for the sake of learning while creating a safe environment where students aren’t “on the line.” This removes the fear of failure and encourages students to open up and take more risks. If you’re looking for them to speak and interact with each other, this is a particularly helpful strategy!

### **Breaking Complicated Ideas into Small Chunks**

Take small steps. Elementary school students tend to be quickly overwhelmed. Remove every complexity by making sure you’re presenting them with manageable tasks. Tasks should be simple, straightforward and understandable. It’s easier for students to be engaged in an activity when they can see the end and purpose.





For example, helping their team win a word game is more interesting to them than memorizing word lists, even though the result is the same: they'll increase vocabulary. Playing a small game is fun and manageable, while memorizing lists seems tedious and endless.

### **3. Let Them Move!**

#### **Taking Students Outside**

Field trip. Take your class to the local French bakery, a museum that features an exhibition on a French artist or to the movies to watch a French film. These exciting activities will allow your students to discover new facets of French culture and deepen their connection with and enthusiasm for French classes. Be sure to discuss what they can expect to see and learn ahead of time: the field trip should be an opportunity to activate their knowledge.

Herbier (herbarium). Creating an herbarium is a fantastic way to learn about trees and plants in French and to bring your students closer to Mother Nature. You don't even have to go too far: take them to the playground if your school has one or to the nearest park. Discuss the local flowers and plant life in class ahead of time and pre-teach plant vocabulary. Let your students know what types of plants they can expect to find and have them draft a list of items they should collect on the field trips, such as a specific leaf of a flower species.

If going on a trip to a state or national park, make sure that taking samples is allowed. Students should put finishing touches on the herbarium at home as a homework assignment. Ask them to dry their pickings and assemble them in a notebook, the herbarium, with their own descriptions.

Chasse au trésor (treasure hunt). Elementary school children love treasure hunts: they're fun and mysterious! To organize your hunt, start by hiding your "treasure" ahead of time. Create small teams of three and hand each team a map featuring the surroundings with locations and notable sights in French; this will teach them navigation skills as well. Write hints on pieces of paper to take the teams from one spot to the next. These can include rhyming clues or riddles, pictures, secret codes or even invisible ink.

#### **Getting Students Moving and Learning!**

Research shows that students learn better when they're physically engaged. That's because their brains become actively involved in learning, memorizing and





understanding. The Total Physical Response (TPR) method, developed by James Asher, adopts a comprehension approach to learning French: students learn by listening to a command and responding by an action. It is a means for them to immediately internalize the language through experience and it removes the stress from the learning process. Use the imperative when doing these types of drills.

Here are some active learning activities that will delight your elementary school students:

Acting. Children love to dream and do role plays: it's a way for them to push their boundaries and be free. Acting engages the whole body by adding dramatization into conversations. Students are encouraged to take on a different personality and develop empathy: this is an intense way to trigger memorization.

Exploring the classroom through stations. It is important that students feel that the classroom is theirs. Moving around is a good way to remove formality and not stifle their curiosity. Create multiple active learning stations they can explore. These could include a book corner, a place for board games or an area where they can watch a cartoon. Students will be attracted to their favorite medium and content. Let students explore each station at will and regroup after 30 minutes. Now, ask students to tell others what they have learned during the activities, which station they preferred, and why.

### References:

1. <https://www.fluentu.com/blog/educator-french/teaching-french-to-elementary-students/>
2. <https://www.alpha-b.fr/en/our-teaching-method-in-alpha-b/>
3. <https://www.naturellementfrançais.com/french-language/french-school/teaching-methods.html>
4. Aksoy, N. (2003). Eylem Araştırması: eğitimsel uygulamaları iyileştirme ve değiştirmede kullanılacak bir yöntem [Action research: a method to be used for the improvement and change in educational applications]. *Educational Administration: Theory and Practice* 9, no.4: 474-489. Retrieved from <http://www.kuey.net/index.php/kuey/index>.
5. Apple, M. W., & Jungck, S. (1990). "You Don't Have to Be a Teacher to Teach This Unit." *Teaching, Technology, and Gender in the Classroom*. *American Educational Research Journal*, 27(2), 227-251.
6. Stenhouse, L. (1975). Defining the curriculum problem. *Cambridge Journal of Education* 5, no.2:104-108.

