



Learning French

PORTFOLIO



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Children & Teenagers

Dear Parents,

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to work with your children this year. We are looking forward to an exciting year and we are delighted to have your children in our online classes. They will have some fun and sometimes challenging tasks to help us reach their goals. They are going to work, play, and learn and have fun in the process.

Our primary goal is to keep our students engaged and interested in the French Language and francophone cultures, and It is our belief that a language is much more than grammar, spelling, literature, and poetry. French, as any language, is a fantastic vehicle we use to express ourselves and connect with other people in the world, or even our own families.

In order to achieve our goals, please encourage your child to do their assignments, to ask questions, and to stay focused while in class, as much as possible. For further details, please read the student guidelines on page 6 !

In closing, we would like to express that another important goal this year is to keep the lines of communication open between the parent(s) and teachers. Positive and productive communication is paramount to your child's success!

If you have any questions or concerns during the year please don't hesitate to contact us at alliance@afphila.com

Sincerely,

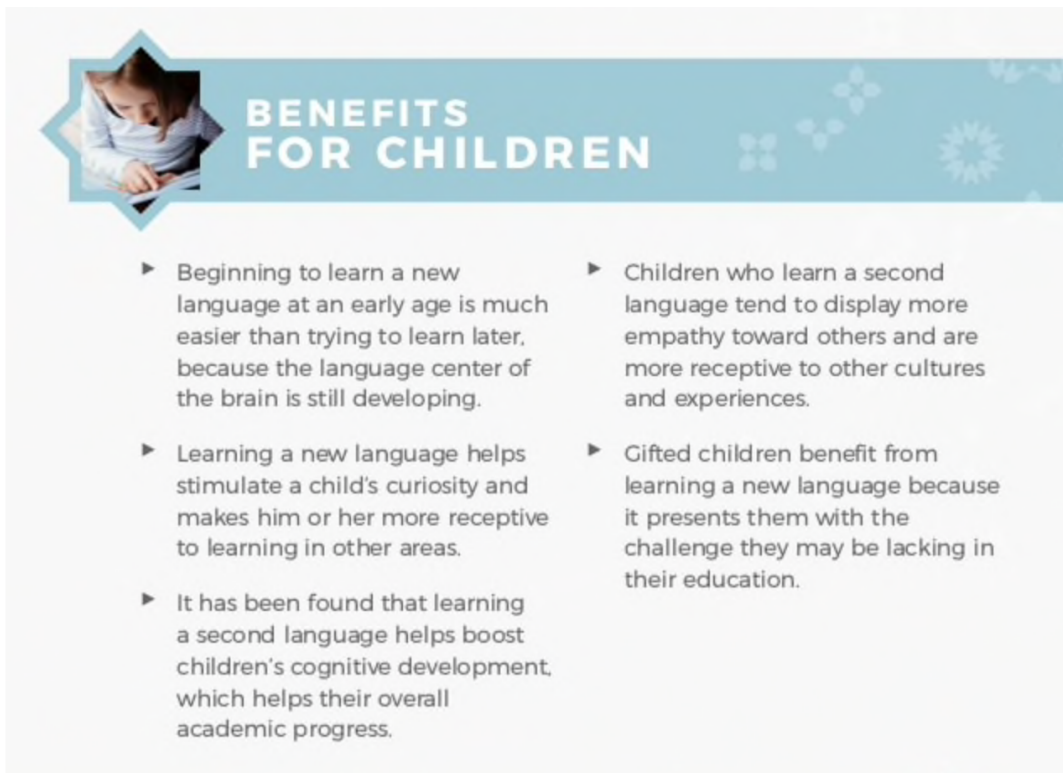
Sonia Robin, Executive Director

Alizée Gaben, Youth Programs Coordinator

Learning a new language

The benefits of early foreign language learning

Studies attest to the fact that learning a foreign language at a young age allows for the development of a whole range of benefits at the neural level of the child. Here are a few links that may be useful if you want to know more about the subject !



BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN

- ▶ Beginning to learn a new language at an early age is much easier than trying to learn later, because the language center of the brain is still developing.
- ▶ Learning a new language helps stimulate a child's curiosity and makes him or her more receptive to learning in other areas.
- ▶ It has been found that learning a second language helps boost children's cognitive development, which helps their overall academic progress.
- ▶ Children who learn a second language tend to display more empathy toward others and are more receptive to other cultures and experiences.
- ▶ Gifted children benefit from learning a new language because it presents them with the challenge they may be lacking in their education.

★ <https://www.leadwithlanguages.org/why-learn-languages/early-childhood-elementary/>

★ <https://www.ertheo.com/blog/en/learning-a-second-language/#learnfast>

★ <https://www.kumon.co.uk/blog/is-learning-a-foreign-language-good-for-kids-at-a-young-age/>

And why French, by the way?

★ <https://tessais.org/french-language-learning-5-reasons-your-child-should-study-french/>

LITTLE Pim

Give Your Child An Extraordinary Advantage
Start kids learning a second language at the age they learn best which is before the age of six. Watch it pay off over a lifetime!

Cognitive development in pre-school years | Test prep - middle school | College admission | **20%** Professional advantage | Adulthood

Some of the many Benefits of Bilingualism

- Educational Advantage**
Bilingual kids demonstrate superior reading, writing, social, & cognitive skills
- Improves Emotional Health**
Early multilingual exposure benefits emotional health and social development
- Creative Advantage**
Bilingual kids score higher in creative thinking and problem solving in many studies
- Cultural Advantage**
Learning a new language develops a natural curiosity about world cultures
- Improves Social Skills**
New studies which indicate that multilingual exposure improves children's social skills
- Increased Listening Skills**
As children tune their hearing to learn new sounds and words, their listening skills develop

Learn more about language learning for kids on our website: www.LittlePim.com.

Student Guidelines

The following are suggested practices and imperative elements for studying a foreign language. Please understand that everyone has a unique learning method and that all suggestions may not apply to your child.

As a parent, take the time to talk with your child and explain your reasons for enrolling your child in French classes. In order to be able to fully invest in learning a new language, your child needs to know what your **motivations** are and what benefits they could gain in the short, medium and long term.

Homework is an essential part of learning a new language. It is an opportunity to deepen and revise the concepts that have been covered in class with the teacher. Very often, homework is perceived as an accessory and this is a mistake ! Homework allows your child to reinvest concepts outside of class time and that is the key to progress !

Due to the current circumstances, most of our children and teen classes are held **online**. Beyond the difficulty of distance learning, it is sometimes difficult for some children to fully engage when they are surrounded by distracting elements, as is the case at home. To help your child focus and make this a real

learning moment, make sure your child is, if possible, in a quiet room, away from surrounding conversations. Also, make sure your child has all their materials and is seated properly before class begins.

For the sake of the class and out of respect for their classmates and teacher, children shouldn't eat in class. If your child's class is close to a **meal** time (breakfast, lunch), please make sure that your child has already eaten or eats after class. A child who eats cannot participate effectively in class as it creates a distraction but also a loss of momentum in terms of participation and concentration.

For some **parents**, it may be tempting to stay close to the screen to watch the class unfold. However, the presence of the adult can sometimes influence the child's participation in class, who may feel observed and judged regarding their interactions. Learning should remain a moment of pleasure and spontaneity. We therefore do not encourage parents to stay and attend class. The **only** classes where we require the discreet presence of a parent are the **Toddlers'** classes.

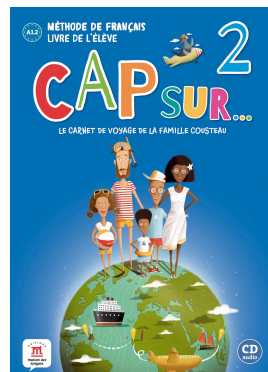
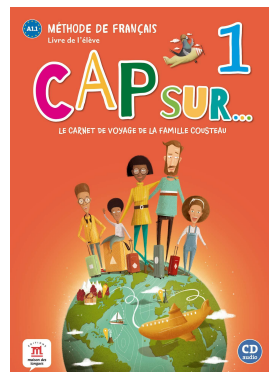
About the textbooks

LES PETITS LOUSTICS



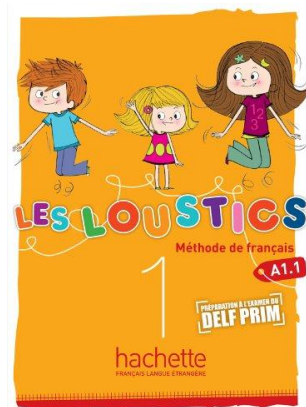
Les petits loustics is a method of learning French for young children who are just starting out. Based essentially on oral expression, this method is ideal for children who are not yet readers. Les petits Loustics follows the adventures of a happy band of friends.

CAP SUR 1 & CAP SUR 2



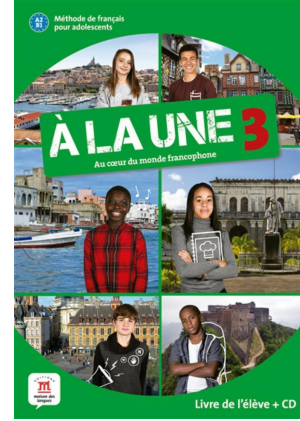
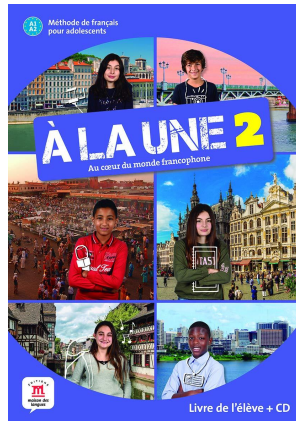
Our teaching method is based on the **CAP SUR**, a method used all over the world in many schools... and Alliances Françaises ! CAP SUR is a dynamic French method with lots of creative activities and linguistic tools tailored for kids between 8 and 10 years old, known to have proved its worth with children for whom French is a foreign language! Throughout the pages, students discover the adventures of the Cousteau family as they travel around the world. The CAP SUR method is available in several books that allow for a progression of content over time and consistency throughout the sessions.

LES LOUSTICS 1



Les loustics is a method designed for children aged 5 to 7 who have already been exposed to French, for at least 2 years. The content covered tends to deepen the notions worked on during the previous years. It is a complete method that emphasizes oral comprehension and vocabulary. The method consists of a student's book and a workbook. The well-presented illustrations help students to immerse themselves in the world of the Legrand family for a learning experience in a good mood !

À LA UNE 1, À LA UNE 2, À LA UNE 3



À la Une is a complete and motivating French method, ideal for working with teenagers. Thanks to a real consideration of the students' interests, it allows for dynamic learning and facilitates interaction within the class. This method offers 8 thematic units, each built around the life of a French-speaking teenager. A double page of grammar per unit repeats the elements covered with systematization exercises and a grammar book at the end of the book. Students will find a double page of lexicon with a mind map and exercises to help them memorize the lexicon of the unit. In each chapter, a truly action-oriented approach with 3 creative mini-projects and a final project per unit allows for a high level of student involvement. The method also offers an awareness of Francophone culture and civic values with elements of daily life throughout the units.

About the homework

After each class, your child's teacher will share the week's assignments with you. The exercises are an **opportunity** to review vocabulary and grammar and reuse it outside of the classroom context. Although **optional**, they are an integral part of the learning **process**. Whether they are shared with you by email, Google Drive or Padlet, do not hesitate to send them back once completed so that the teacher can have a look at the work done.

At the beginning of each session, pay attention to the **emails** that are sent to you by the instructor. Often, the teacher will detail the procedure for sending the assignments and the procedure for returning them once completed.

Some teachers include **vocabulary lists** with their assignments. If you have the opportunity, feel free to print the document and collect each page in a binder for your child to be able to consult it between each class.

If your child is not yet a **reader**, take the time to read the words to them and make sure they know what those locutions mean in English.

If you don't speak French yourself, don't hesitate to use **translation tools** such as Google Translate, Wordreference or Deepl.

Frequently asked questions

Q: What does my child need in class ?

At the very beginning of the session, your child's teacher will send you an email with everything your child will need: colored pencils, a pen, an eraser... Each class has its own textbook. The references of this method will have been communicated to you at the time of your child's registration. On average, the purchase price of the method is \$60.

Q: My child is just starting to learn French. I'm afraid he'll be a little lost at first. Is the course exclusively in French or is English allowed ?

At Alliance Française de Philadelphie, all of our teachers are fluent in French and English. If students have a question or would like to be understood on a specific point, they can always ask the instructor in English.

Q: What happens if the course my child is enrolled in is too easy or too difficult ?

If after one or two classes, your child finds that the level of the course is not the good one, please do not hesitate to contact us. It will always be possible to redirect your child towards a class that suits them best.

Q: What to do in case of absence ?

If your child is unable to attend a class, please notify the teacher directly. In this way, the instructor will be able to adapt the course to the size of the group. By contacting the teacher in advance, then they will also be able to provide you with the points that were worked on in class.

Levels

ABOUT THE CEFRL

The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, abbreviated in English as CEFRL, is an internationally recognized guideline used to describe achievements of learners of foreign languages. It is a tool developed by the Council of Europe and is meant to provide a method of learning, teaching and assessing which applies to all languages in Europe. Since 2001, it has become a reference in the field of learning and teaching French.

The Alliance Française de Philadelphie (AFP) implements the AF Frames that sets clear learning objectives at each stage of the learning process based on its interpretation of the Common European Framework of References for Foreign Languages for our context



Can recognize and use familiar words and simple phrases for concrete purposes. Can introduce themselves or someone else. Can ask and answer basic questions about home, family, surroundings, etc. Can communicate in a basic way when the other

person speaks slowly and clearly, and is ready to repeat or reformulate to help communication.



Can understand isolated phrases and common expressions that relate to areas of high personal relevance (like personal or family information, shopping, immediate environment, work). Can communicate during easy or habitual tasks requiring a basic and direct exchange of information on familiar subjects. Using simple words can describe his or her surroundings and communicate immediate needs.



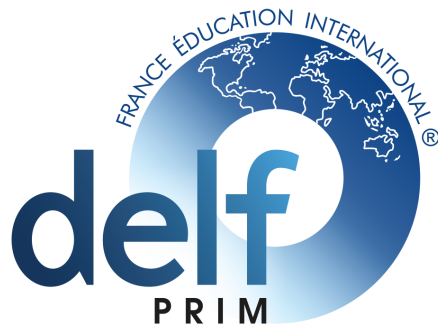
Can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar subjects in work, school, leisure activities, etc. Can manage in most situations that come up when travelling in a region where the language is spoken. Can produce a simple and cohesive text on familiar subjects or subjects of personal interest. Can narrate an event, an experience or a dream; describe a desire or goal, and outline reasons or explanations behind a project or idea.



Can understand the main ideas of concrete or abstract topics in a complex text, including a technical article in the user's area of expertise. Can communicate with a degree of spontaneity and fluency during a conversation with a native speaker, in a way that is comfortable for everyone. Can speak in a clear, detailed way on a number of subjects; express an opinion on current affairs, giving the advantages and disadvantages of the various options.



Certifications



The DELF Prim is an official Diploma of French Language Studies issued by the French Ministry of Education and is recognized worldwide. It allows validating and certifying for French language abilities. Therefore, this diploma allows your child to value their ability in French. The DELF Prim is perfectly fit for children between 7 and 11 years old in primary school.

The DELF Prim is divided into 3 levels: A1.1, A1 and A2, corresponding to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). Level A1.1 is the most accessible one and A2 the most advanced. Later your child will be able to continue with the DELF Junior B1 and the DELF B2 Junior.



The junior version of DELF is perfectly fit for teenagers between 12 and 18 years old in middle and high-school. The DELF junior version has the same basic structure as the standard DELF. Only the topics are different: the materials take into account the interests of young people.

The diploma's value is the exact same as the standard DELF. Indeed, just as the other types of DELF, the DELF junior version is based on the principles and levels defined by the Common European Framework of Reference for languages (CEFR). There is no specific mention on the diploma. Just like the standard DELF, it is a diploma of French language which is issued. Thus it is impossible to tell the difference between a DELF junior version diploma and a standard DELF diploma.

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At the Alliance, we only offer adult DELF and DALF exams.

If your child would like to take one of these exams to certify their level, you can visit

PhilaFLAM website: <http://ecole.philaflam.com/delf/>

About Us

Membership

The Alliance Française de Philadelphie is a self-funded, member-supported nonprofit organization. As such, we rely heavily on donations and membership fees to offer high quality French cultural and educational programs to the Philadelphia community. While we are a branch of the Alliance Française headquartered in Paris, it is the generosity of people like you that helps the Alliance continue its mission.

Become a member* or donate to support your Alliance !

*Being a student does not automatically make you a member of AFP.

Library

Our library is a perfect place to read and study in a quiet environment. If you become a member of AFP, your child will have free access to our French library.

Culturethèque

Culturethèque is an online multimedia library, and it is free for members of the Alliance Française.

The Culturetèque platform includes a Youth section which offers all kinds of support intended for the young people from 3 to 16 years and in particular a very broad collection of albums, comics, mangas, newspapers...

Find more information on our website: <https://afphila.com/membership>

About the classes

Toddlers' class

10 classes per session

30 minutes / lesson

No material or method required

Max. number of students : 4

\$150

5-7 & 8-10 yo. classes

10 classes per session

45 minutes / lesson

Method required

Max. number of students : 6

\$190

Teenagers' classes

10 classes per session

1 hour / lesson

Method required

Max. number of students : 6

\$190

Contact

BUSINESS HOURS

Mon - Fri :

10:00am- 6:00 pm

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