

20 Fun French Games for Children

Build Vocabulary, Confidence, and Joy with French Through Play!

Bonjour!

Play is a powerful tool for learning. The following games use movement, repetition, and fun to reinforce key French skills. We've included simple French sentences, their English translations, and an approximate pronunciation to help you feel confident while leading these games—even if you're still learning too!

Vocabulary & Listening Games

- 1. Jacques a dit** (*Simon Says*)
Use: *Jacques a dit touche ta tête.*
→ “Simon says touch your head.”
→ Pronunciation: *Zhak ah dee toosh tah tet*
- 2. Je vois avec mon petit œil...** (*I Spy*)
Use: *Je vois avec mon petit œil quelque chose de rouge.*
→ “I spy with my little eye something red.”
→ Pronunciation: *Zhuh vwah ah-vek mon puh-tee uh-y keh-kuh shoz duh roozh*
- 3. Mot chaud, mot froid** (*Hot and Cold*)
Use: *Tu es chaud ! / Tu es froid !*
→ “You’re hot!” / “You’re cold!”
→ Pronunciation: *Tu eh show / Tu eh frwah*
- 4. Est-ce que ce mot veut dire... ?** (*Does this word mean... ?*)
Use: *Est-ce que “chat” veut dire dog ?*
→ “Does ‘chat’ mean dog?”
→ Pronunciation: *Es-kuh shah vuh deer dog*
- 5. Cherche et trouve** (*Scavenger Hunt*)
Use: *Trouve un crayon bleu !*
→ “Find a blue pencil!”
→ Pronunciation: *Troov uh cray-on bluh*

6. **Écoute et colorie** (*Listen and Color*)
Use: *Colorie le soleil en jaune.*
→ “Color the sun yellow.”
→ Pronunciation: *Ko-loh-ree luh soh-lay on zhohn*

 7. **Je m'appelle... et j'aime...**
Use: *Je m'appelle Sophie et j'aime les pommes.*
→ “My name is Sophie and I like apples.”
→ Pronunciation: *Zhuh mah-pel Sophie eh zhem lay pom*

 8. **Mime le mot** (*Act it Out*)
Say a word like *nager* (“to swim”), child mimes it.
→ Pronunciation: *Nah-zhay*

 9. **Flashcard Bingo**
Use: *Montre-moi le mot “chat”.*
→ “Show me the word ‘cat’.”
→ Pronunciation: *Mont-ruh mwah luh moh shah*

 10. **C'est quel mot ?** (*What's the word?*)
Use: *C'est un fruit rouge. C'est... ?*
→ “It's a red fruit. It is...?”
→ Pronunciation: *Say uh frwee roozh. Say...?*
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Movement-Based Games

11. **La marelle** (*Hopscotch*)
Use: *Dis le mot en sautant.*
→ “Say the word while jumping.”
→ Pronunciation: *Dee luh moh on soh-tahn*

12. **Balle en cercle** (*Circle Ball Toss*)
Use: *Dis une phrase en français.*
→ “Say a sentence in French.”
→ Pronunciation: *Dee uhn frahz on frahn-say*

13. **Saute et dis** (*Jump and Say*)
Use: *Saute et dis le mot !*
→ “Jump and say the word!”
→ Pronunciation: *Soht eh dee luh moh*

14. **Course aux mots** (*Word Relay*)
Use: *Cours vers le bon mot !*
→ “Run to the correct word!”
→ Pronunciation: *Koor vehr luh bon moh*
15. **Danse et arrête** (*Dance and Freeze*)
Use: *Dis un mot quand la musique s’arrête.*
→ “Say a word when the music stops.”
→ Pronunciation: *Dee uh moh kawn lah moo-zeek sah-ret*
16. **Touche la couleur** (*Touch the Color*)
Use: *Touche quelque chose de bleu !*
→ “Touch something blue!”
→ Pronunciation: *Toosh kel-kuh shoz duh bluh*
17. **Pêche aux mots** (*Word Fishing*)
Use: *Quel mot as-tu pêché ?*
→ “What word did you catch?”
→ Pronunciation: *Kel moh ah-tu pay-shay?*
18. **Tourne et parle** (*Spin and Speak*)
Use: *Tourne la roue et dis un mot !*
→ “Spin the wheel and say a word!”
→ Pronunciation: *Toorn lah roo eh dee uh moh*
19. **Chaises musicales des mots**
Use: *Lis le mot sur ta chaise.*
→ “Read the word on your chair.”
→ Pronunciation: *Leez luh moh sur tah shez*
20. **Passe le ballon** (*Pass the Ball*)
Use: *Dis une réponse en français !*
→ “Say an answer in French!”
→ Pronunciation: *Dee uhn ray-ponss on frahn-say*
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Ready to Play?

With just a few simple phrases, some movement, and a spirit of fun, these games can help make French come alive! Use this guide often and don't be afraid to learn right alongside your kids—it's a journey you can enjoy together.