

How Do I Support My Child in French Immersion?

- Investigate opportunities for school exchange trips and summer camps/programs
- Encourage your child to watch TFO online or French shows on television
- Enjoy online French reading with your child
- Encourage your child to take out French books from the school library
- Offer experiences that support your child's learning, such as visiting French restaurants or visiting a Francophone area
- Watch familiar movies that have a French version (change the language settings when available)

Useful Resources

[Canadian Parents for French](#)

[French as a Second Language Homework Toolbox](#)

[Parents Matter - Fact Sheet](#)

[How Can I Support my Child if I Do Not Speak French?](#)

Reading

Children learn by doing. To help learn the letters of the alphabet and sounds, offer your child opportunities to manipulate the letters in a variety of ways.

Here are just a few ideas:

- Alphabet fridge magnets
- Letter stickers
- Wooden letters
- White board markers/ Crayola window writers
- Create letters with play dough or magnetic sand

Literacy is not for the fortunate few. It is the right of every child. Teaching children to read is not the responsibility of a chosen few. It is the responsibility of every teacher, every administrator and every parent.

(Bouchard and Sutton 2001, p. 3)

Supported by the Ministry of Education, [this site](#) provides thorough information about reading comprehension strategies, along with supporting videos and practical reading strategies and techniques parents can use with their children.

Download and print off this [reading strategies bookmark](#). Use these strategies and the guiding questions with your child to help and encourage them while reading with them at home. Children who can effectively use reading strategies become more confident readers who think about, respond and reflect on what they have read. (Source: A Guide to Effective Instruction in Reading: Kindergarten to Grade 3, p. 2.3)

[Don't Skip Reading](#)

Math

It is okay to practice math strategies in English at home even though students are learning in French at school. The Ministry of Education released a helpful document for parents titled "[Doing Mathematics with your Child: Kindergarten to Grade 6 - A Parent Guide](#)". This document provides great tips and activities you can do with your child at home to support them in learning math.

French is the language of instruction for math for students in the French Immersion program from Kindergarten through Grade 6. In Grades 7 and 8, the language of instruction changes to English and in secondary school course selection varies by school.

Math is everywhere! As stated in the Ontario Curriculum: Mathematics, "An information- and technology-based society requires individuals who are able to think critically about complex issues, analyse and adapt to new situations, solve problems of various kinds, and communicate their thinking effectively. The study of mathematics equips students with knowledge, skills, and habits of mind that are essential for successful and rewarding participation in such a society".

When you find ways to engage your child in thinking and talking about mathematics, you are providing an important key for unlocking his or her future success

(Doing Mathematics With Your Child Kindergarten to Grade 6)

Top Tips for Parents

- Build strong, positive attitudes about math. When children feel positively engaged and successful, they are more likely to stick with an activity or a problem to find a solution.
- Begin with activities that meet your child's level of mathematical understanding. Early success in solving problems with build your child's confidence. Gradually move to activities that provide more challenge for your child.
- If you and your child are more comfortable in a language other than English, use it. Your child will understand concepts better in the language that they know best.

[FSL Homework Toolbox - An Intro to Mathematics](#)

[Brainpop FR](#)

[La Souris Web](#)

[Learn Alberta Math](#)

[Jeux Maths](#)

[Mathies](#)

Writing

Ideas to help with writing:

- Scribe ideas for them
- Have them edit with a pen with a colour of their choice
- Try to use Read & Write speech to text
- Encourage their effort
- Take breaks
- Have them write sections at a time, not all at once
- Create an appropriate reward system

Read & Write Extension for Chrome

[Read & Write](#) is an extension for Google Chrome or an app for the iPad that 'provides personalized support to make documents, web pages and common file types in Google Drive more accessible'. It can be used at home on a laptop, Chromebook, iPad or Android device.

To set up Read & Write on an iPad, [see the instructions here](#).

Google Translator

Be mindful of [Google Translator](#) use. In order to avoid plagiarism, translate one word at a time like you would if you were looking a word up in the dictionary.

Writing is a powerful instrument for students to use to express their thoughts, feelings, and judgments about what they have read, seen, or experienced. As students continue to develop an understanding of the writing process; the elements of writing; text forms, genres, and formats; and technology, they are able to express themselves more confidently and effectively.

(A Guide to Effective Instruction in Writing: Kindergarten to Grade 3, pg 1.3)

Word Reference

An online dictionary used to look up single words from English to French or vice versa.

Bon Patron

An online visual dictionary. Students can use this online tool to help edit their written work.