

50 French Events and Activities for the Classroom

This is a list of suggestions from several French teachers to help enliven your classroom. By incorporating activities that include parents, community, colleagues, and the world, you are building not only a strong classroom, but also a strong support network.

EVENTS

- 1) National French week (November)
- 2) National French contest (March – register in January)
- 3) La Sainte-Catherine – hats ! (25 November)
- 4) Paris-Brest-Paris (1200 km. amateur bicycle race)
- 5) Euro cup (football and basketball) / World Cup
- 6) La Chandeleur – crêpes (2 February)
- 7) Carnaval de Québec -soap sculptures ! (January – February)
- 8) Mardi Gras – masks ! (February)
- 9) Poisson d’avril (1 April)
- 10) Le Dakar Rally off-road racing (January)
- 11) Le Mans 24-hour racing (June)
- 12) International Day / (International Mother Language Day: UNESCO (February)
- 13) Journée Internationale de la Francophonie (20 March)
- 14) St Jean Baptiste Day – Québec (24 June)
- 15) Bastille Day (14 July)
- 16) Tour de France (July)
- 17) La Grande Dictée de la Francophonie
- 18) Fête de la musique (20 June)
- 19) La Semaine du Goût (middle of October in France ; September in Switzerland)
- 20) Thanksgiving – Thanks offered in French at the dinner table

ACTIVITIES

- 21) Design t-shirts with French expressions; wear your French t-shirt day
- 22) Prepare French pastry
- 23) Organize a pétanque (boules) competition
- 24) Make and wear your own beret
- 25) Host International Film Fest /after-school movie
- 26) Visit art museum
- 27) Attend plays, concerts, and operas
- 28) Invite guest speakers
- 29) Present French fashion show
- 30) Play French music between classes/before and after school during National French Week
- 31) Conduct trips exchanges to France/Québec
- 32) Play French bingo, scrabble, etc.
- 33) Dine at French restaurant

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- 34) Organize waiter races, baguette races, and tricycle races (mini Tour de France!)
- 35) Schedule Orangina days
- 36) Create cooking contests
- 37) Organize poetry days, readings, slams
- 38) Host French language or culture competitions
- 39) Do face painting (French or Quebec flag; Eiffel tower; fleur-de-lys)
- 40) Use hall bulletin boards or display cases to highlight activities
- 41) Highlight French week in your school's food classes with decorations, posters and French foods
- 42) Highlight French on career days; emphasize how French is used in careers
- 43) Create a French cheering section at athletic events
- 44) Participate in local parades / events
- 45) Visit elementary or middle school classes
- 46) Create take-home activities for students and parents to do together
- 47) Attend immersion days or weekends ; French summer camps
- 48) Design Holiday cards – Valentine's Day, etc. –and send them to administrators, school board members, families
- 49) Organize a story-hour at the public or school library to read French-language stories to children (picture books, familiar fairy tales)
- 50) Provide colleagues in other disciplines with ideas or an activity that illustrates that French has interdisciplinary connections (See bell-ringer activities in the French Language Advocacy Kit.)