

CPF Saskatchewan

Say "Oui"

CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH

SASKATCHEWAN BRANCH

SPECIAL EDITION for Pre-school - Kindergarten French Immersion

Say "Oui" to **FRENCH** Immersion Kindergarten



TOLL FREE NUMBER IN
SASKATCHEWAN

1-800-561-6151

In Saskatoon phone 244-6151

For information about
French Immersion and Core French
programs

What is Immersion?

Immersion is the most effective method known for teaching a second language. Early immersion works well because a young child lacks self-consciousness, prejudice and negativism... and loves mimicry, memorization and repetition. Early immersion provides more time working in a second language... and more time results in more learning.

In kindergarten the teacher addresses the class in French, although the children often continue to use English, especially among themselves. By the end of the year children are able to recognize a large vocabulary and are attempting to use single words and a few short sentences. They are able to follow the teacher's instructions and to understand simple stories.

In grade 1 all instruction, including reading, writing and arithmetic, is given in French. Speaking skills receive greater emphasis and the children get better at expressing themselves in French. They are usually speaking only French in the classroom by Christmas.

In general, beginning at about grade three, one period each day is devoted to English language arts. In later years, the amount of time spent in each language varies with different school systems. Check with your own school system to find out what their policies are.

The aim of early immersion is functional bilingualism. Graduates are able to communicate comfortably in French while developing the same or better skills in English as peers in standard English programs.

Why Learn French?

Some of the ways in which a student can gain from the study of French as a second language are:

- the door is open to career opportunities and travel in all parts of Canada and in any of the 83 countries around the world where English and/or French are spoken
- acquiring knowledge of other peoples and cultures which contributes to tolerance and open-mindedness
- improving the understanding and appreciation of the mother tongue
- enhancing feelings of identity and self-esteem
- developing learning skills they can use for the rest of their lives. Researchers say that children who learn a second language have improved problem-solving skills.
- developing the ability to handle abstract ideas - from algebra to theories of history
- improving their ability to think creatively
- learning a third or fourth language more easily

CPF - Saskatchewan supports French Second Language Education