

Course Description: Elementary French Lower (First - Third) and Upper (Fourth - Fifth)

Having been blessed to study French since the age of five, and having studied several other languages in high school and college, I majored in foreign languages and graduated from Western Michigan University in 1981. I studied in France, traveled extensively in Europe, studied at the Freie Universitat Berlin after graduation from WMU, and I studied extensively in Belgium both before and while I lived there after I was married.

I taught French for over 30 years at Kalamazoo area private schools, at KAT, and privately for preschool through high school students. There was no published curriculum for the younger age groups, so I developed a complete curriculum and created all the materials with which to teach it. I was also blessed to have been trained in Sonja Stewart's Children's Worship program, which I adapted to incorporate into my classes. I homeschooled my three children who are now all graduated.



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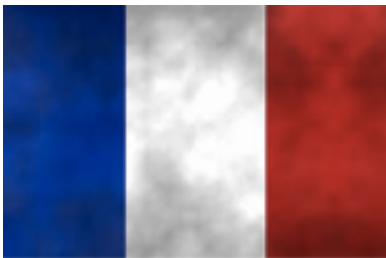
The elementary classes will meet for 45 minutes each, back to back. I teach foreign language from the perspective of how God wired children to learn their native language: counting, colors, body parts, simple conversational forms ("what is your name?" "my name is ...", "how old are you?" and so on), Bible stories and verses, nursery rhymes, children's stories, simple science "experiments", classical music, classical art, a little geography and so on. The essential difference between the two age groups is how much vocabulary and how much grammar I introduce. I do not use English in class to "help", since it is confusing and not necessary. Each student receives a take-home DVD for daily vocabulary review.

All ages follow a very general, seasonal thematic outline for the year. In the two elementary classes I introduce eight to twelve vocabulary words per category within the themes. As the year progresses, I cross-reference categories to build defined grammatical concepts; thus colors and numbers, for example, will be used to introduce adjectives, quantity, singular and plural and the first basic sentence structure. I also teach conversational structures, songs, rhymes, and the support vocabulary for games (like Simon Says and Go Fish) and in-class experiences to allow the students to begin the very early stages of expressing themselves and of thinking in French.

ELEMENTARY OVERVIEW

- >FALL THEME: COLORS NUMBERS, SCHOOL, FRUITS, VEGETABLES, BODY PARTS, AUTUMN, BREAKFAST, HARVEST, THANKSGIVING, ARTIST, COMPOSER, SCIENCE/MATH PROJECT, GAMES, BIBLE
- >WINTER THEME: FAMILY, WINTER, HOLIDAYS, OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES, TOYS, PARIS, HOUSE, TRANSPORTATION, LUNCH, TABLE SETTING, ARTIST, COMPOSER, SCIENCE/MATH PROJECT, GAMES, BIBLE
- >SPRING THEME: CLOTHING, OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES, SPRING, SENSES, SHAPES, PETS, DINNER, INSECTS, ZOO ANIMALS, ARTIST, COMPOSER, SCIENCE/MATH PROJECT, GAMES, BIBLE

FEES: Tuition is \$180 (includes building use fee, materials, and tutoring) for this full-year class, with a \$30.00 non-refundable deposit due at registration. \$60 is due the first day of class in September, and the remaining \$90 is due the first day of class in January.



French is the official and/or second official language in more than 40 countries world wide with over 300 million people speaking it. French and English are the only two languages spoken on [all seven continents](#). French is the second most influential language in the world, having also been the international language of politics and business for several centuries.