



Resources in French for Students

In order to improve or maintain proficiency in French, it's important for students to seek out opportunities to read, speak, hear, and write in the language. This becomes especially important during the 2-week holidays and over the summer break. Even just 15 to 30 minutes a day of exposure can be beneficial for students.

Resources at Handsworth

The Library Learning Commons has a collection of fiction, non-fiction, and graphic novels in French that is growing and expanding each year. Based on student feedback, we have made an effort to acquire more fantasy and science fiction reading material. A display case in the Learning Commons showcases new releases and popular books.

Our website also has a French page with information about our collection, and links to external websites which can help students with grammar, and improving their vocabulary.

- <https://libguides.sd44.ca/handsworth/ressourcesfrancophones>
- LLC hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 3:15pm.

Resources outside of Handsworth

READ

- Municipal libraries

Both the District and the City of North Vancouver carry French fiction and non-fiction collections. Check out the websites to see the best branches for French.

- District of North Vancouver Libraries : <https://nvdpl.ca/>
- City of North Vancouver Library: <https://www.nvcl.ca/>

- *La Bibliothèque des Amériques*

The “Library of the Americas” is an initiative of the Centre de la francophonie des Amériques. They offer free digital access to French-language books for all age groups. You need to sign up as a member, and download the Aldiko Next app onto your mobile phone in order to check out the material. You can also read the checked out book the web.

- <https://www.bibliothequedesameriques.com/>

- *Leslibraires*

This website allows students to select a book they might like to read. It aggregates information from different booksellers throughout Québec, and presents curated lists of books, like “bestsellers,” “booksellers’s choice” or “best for 14+.”

- <https://www.leslibraires.ca/>

- *Babelio*

Similar to *Goodreads*, Babelio users share their book reviews, and prepare thematic lists by genre or author. This is another great website to help students select a book or author they might like.

- <https://www.babelio.com/>

- **TV5 Monde – La Bibliothèque numérique**

This digital library features mostly classic French-language authors like Victor Hugo, Honoré de Balzac, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Maupassant, Jules Verne, George Sand, Alexandre Dumas. You need a computer or mobile device to read them in PDF and EPub formats.

- <https://bibliothequenumerique.tv5monde.com/>

- French **Booksellers**

- Kidsbooks (Vancouver) : <https://kidsbooks.ca/>
- Renaud-Bray (Montréal): <https://www.renaud-bray.com/accueil.aspx>
- Archambault (Montréal): <https://www.archambault.ca/>

- **Les Inrockuptibles**

- This webmagazine offers news and reviews of arts and culture throughout the Francophone world. A great way for students to discover new musical artists or French films

LISTEN

- **Radio-Canada Ohdio**

Mobile and web app that groups together all of Radio-Canada's (French CBC) audio content: podcasts, radio shows, music, audiobooks, and playlists.

- <https://ici.radio-canada.ca/ohdio>

- **Radio Nova**

Radio station in Paris, France playing an eclectic mix of new and old music.

- <https://www.nova.fr/>

- **Audible Stories**

This digital library of audiobooks has some French titles that are free to read, and many others that are available with subscription. They often have offers like the first month free.

- <https://www.audible.ca/>

- **Spotify Canada**

This music streaming service features thousands of French-language podcasts and well-curated playlists. Encourage your child to make their own playlists of French-language music and share them with their friends.

- <https://www.spotify.com/ca-fr/premium/>

PRACTICE AND GAMES

- **TV5 Monde**

Videos, listening exercises, quizzes, and cultural articles organized by topic and by DELF level. TV5 Monde includes content from across the francophone world. Most students in secondary start at A2 and can move onto B2 in their senior years.

- <https://apprendre.tv5monde.com/en/exercices/a2-waystage>

- **Duolingo**

This mobile app features vocab and grammar exercises that progress through different levels.

- <https://fr.duolingo.com/>

- **Mauril**

This free mobile app from CBC/Radio-Canada features videos, and exercises sourced from CBC/Radio-Canada. This came out recently and while it's likely appropriate for teenagers, it may be worth doing the first few exercises with a parent.

- <https://mauril.ca/fr/>

- BBC Ma France

This mobile app features France-related videos, listening exercises, quizzes and culture.

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/mafrance/>

WATCH/VIEW

- France 24

International news 24 hours a day in French. Also available to watch on YouTube

- <https://www.france24.com/fr/reportages/>

- ICI Tou.TV

Streaming service for French tv shows and film (most of which are produced from Radio-Canada). Many shows are free to watch, but some are only available by subscription. They sometimes offer 1 free month.

- <https://ici.tou.tv/>

- Lumni

Features educational audiovisual resources published by a group of broadcasters in France. They feature high quality documentaries on different topics in Science, the Humanities and Literature. Select "college" and "lycée" for content that is appropriate for high school students.

<https://www.lumni.fr/>

- Youtube.fr

There are many French-language Youtubers that students can discover.

- Gui-Home, Safia Dandome, Jimmy Labeau, Le rire jaune, Amélie Barbeau, Gaboom Films, Waxx

- Netflix

The streaming service has ongoing contracts with French and Québécois production companies to produce tv shows and films in French. The best way to search is to use Netflix's website and search by genre. Then, select, French. Some of our favourite shows are *Lupin*, *La vie scolaire*, and *Dix pour-cent*.

ARTS & CULTURE

- Théâtre la Seizième

The only mainly French, professional theatre company in BC. They offer play presentations for different age groups, and English surtitles for many of their shows.

- <https://seizieme.ca/fr/>

- Visions-Ouest Production

This organisation runs the *Rendez-vous*, a kind of French language film festival, each spring and winter at different locations across Vancouver. They also allow you to watch movies online that don't always make it to theatres.

- <https://rendez-vousvancouver.com/>

- Centre culturel francophone

French Community centre located in Vancouver which offers many activities, concerts, and special events (like a Christmas craft fair and summer festival), in addition to a library.

- <https://www.lecentreculturel.com/fr/>

- Alliance française

Along with French classes for all age levels, l'Alliance also offers the DELF examination and library services. Our school district makes arrangements with the Alliance to allow North Vancouver students to take the optional DELF jr. exam.

- <https://www.alliancefrancaise.ca/en/>

- French Consulate in Vancouver

They keep an updated list of British Columbia businesses owned and operated by French citizens or by chefs who have been trained in France. Taking students to a café or restaurant is a great immersion experience for students

- <https://vancouver.consulfrance.org/taste-French-food>

EXCHANGES & NATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- EXPLORE program

This federal agency, Official Languages Programs, organizes EXPLORE, which is an intensive French-immersion experience offered in spring and summer where students get to travel to a new part of Canada. There are sessions for 13-to-15 year olds, and some for 16 to 19 year olds. It is funded by the Government of Canada.

- <https://englishfrench.ca/explore/what-is-explore/?lang>

- YMCA Summer Work Student Exchange

This program is a national exchange program for 16 and 17 year olds living in Canada. What makes this program special is that youth travel to a community in Canada where they live and work in their second language. They are provided employment in public sector or non-profit jobs.

- <https://swse.ymcagta.org/>

- Français pour l'avenir

« French for the Future ». Young Ambassadors Program is a national council for young people learning French in minority environments across Canada. This organisation also runs scholarship competitions related to French language and culture.

- <https://www.french-future.org/fr/>