

Comparing pastimes and everyday life

Background information

French children have similar hobbies to British children. Perhaps, due to the warmer climate, French children may spend more time outdoors. Everyday life is also very similar. School days may differ slightly (eg children do not wear uniform to school). The most beneficial way to compare everyday life is to show video clips of French children to begin discussions. It will most likely develop into a discussion about stereotypes and their inaccuracies (see also Challenging stereotypes, pages 62).

Teaching ideas

- ◆ Revise sports and hobbies. Brainstorm.
- ◆ Discuss similarities and differences in everyday life between France and the United Kingdom.
- ◆ Pupils could mime activities and say what they are doing in French. Alternatively, you could play a game of *Jacques dit* (Simon Says).
- ◆ Try this hot potato activity. Give each table a large sheet of paper. Each table has two minutes to write as much as they know about the lives of French and English pupils. Pass the sheets around (giving two minutes for each sheet), until each table has written on every sheet. Share and discuss findings.
- ◆ If possible, invite a native speaker/French Learning Assistant in to talk about their hobbies as a child.
- ◆ Pupils could write a postcard home from France detailing the activities they have done, in French.

Vocabulaire

mes passe-temps	my hobbies
je joue ...	I play ...
du piano	the piano
du violon	the violin
de la flûte	the flute
de la guitare	the guitar
je joue au ...	I play ...
foot	football
basket	basketball
rugby	rugby
volley	volleyball
hockey	hockey
golf	golf
je joue à la	I play on my
playstation	playstation
je joue à	I play computer
l'ordinateur	games
je fais du vélo	I cycle
je fais de la	I do gymnastics
gymnastique	
je fais du judo	I do judo
je fais de	I do athletics
l'athlétisme	
je fais du karaté	I do karate
je fais de	I go horse riding
l'équitation	
je fais de la	I go sailing
voile	

Comparing pastimes

Pupil Task Sheet



Nom:

Date:

Write a letter or email in French to your French friend about your hobbies.

Write a list of questions in French you would ask a French person about their hobbies and pastimes.



**And now for some
RESEARCH!**

Use authentic resources – Internet, magazines and newspapers – to investigate how children in other countries spend their free time. In groups present your findings to the rest of the class.

Quick quiz

- ◆ Brainstorm some hobbies in French.
- ◆ How do you give opinions in French?