



Parachutes & PE: active language learning in Primary schools - FRENCH

As presented at CiLT Primary Languages Show, Manchester, Saturday 12 March 2005

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'We must provide an opportunity for early language learning to harness children's learning potential & enthusiasm ... The aim will be for a creative, flexible and imaginative approach to engage pupils so that schools can make the most of the rich vein of language learning opportunities that exist already...' (Languages for All: Languages for Life, DFES, 2002)

We think P.E. lessons offer a great opportunity for truly active language learning experiences. Reinforce MFL skills & knowledge through the context of normal PE lessons and your pupils will have fun, get fit & improve their MFL at the same time.

Examples of MFL objectives you can cover in P.E. (taken from the KS2 draft Framework)

Oracy

- Use physical response to show recognition & understanding of key words & phrases
- Remember, retain and recall words and phrases.

Literacy

- Understand words displayed

Knowledge about Language

- Recognise how sounds are represented in written form
- Notice the spelling of familiar words
- Recognise patterns in the foreign language.

Language Learning Strategies

- Use actions and rhymes to aid memorisation.
- Use context & previous knowledge to help understanding.
- Practise new language outside the classroom.
- Play games to help memorisation.
- Sort words into categories.

Listen Recognise Repeat Understand Use Reinforce Remember!





Children who have forgotten their kit/aren't doing PE can:




- call out some instructions for you
- hold up picture or text cards
- give team points/praise others in the foreign language



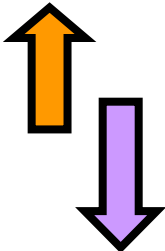
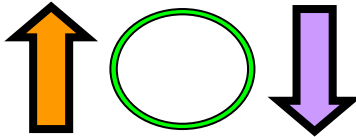
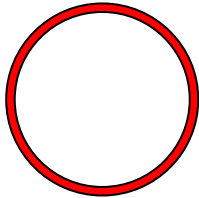
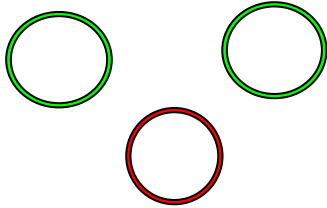
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Key Vocabulary	Activity	Resources
Trouvez une place Silence Taisez-vous	Starting the lesson: Ask pupils to find a space and be silent. <i>Display instruction text & photo cards around your PE space to help you and your pupils remember to use them.</i>	Instruction text cards Photo/picture cards
Marchez Courez Sautez Tournez-vous à droite Tournez-vous à gauche Arrêtez	Moving around the PE space: Warm up for PE by calling out instructions in quick succession to walk, run, jump, turn on the spot.	Instruction text cards Photo cards
Marchez, courez, arrêtez (as above) Mettez-vous en groupe de .. Trois, quatre, cinq, etc	Numbers game warm-up: Pupils walk, run or jump around PE space. Call out a number - pupils have to find enough partners to quickly stand or sit together in a group of that number. Then walk or run again and repeat with a different number each time. Let a pupil call out the numbers.	
Marchez, courez, arrêtez (as above) with body parts, eg, Touchez-vous les coudes Le genou Les genoux Le coude Les coudes La cheville Les chevilles	Body parts game warm-up: Pupils walk, run or jump around hall. When you call out 'Touch ankles' pupils have to quickly find a partner and hold their own ankle against that of partner until you instruct them to move again. Repeat with moving around hall in different ways, and calling out different body parts, (with full regard to <i>Health & Safety</i> guidelines!).	Body parts picture cards Text cards 



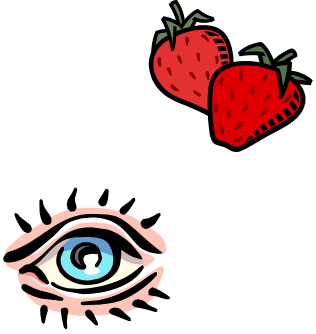
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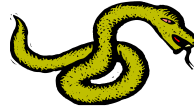
Key Vocabulary	Activity	Resources
<p>Courez vers Le nord Le sud L'est L'ouest Le nord-est Le nord-ouest Le sud-est Le sud-ouest</p> 	<p>Compass points/Colours warm-up: Display compass point cards - children can stand holding these, or place them on wall or floor, or simply tell children where North is so they have to work out other directions for themselves.</p> <p>Children run/move around PE space; call out a compass point so pupils have to move to that point quickly. Keep children moving from point to point around & across PE space.</p> <p>Alternative: place colours (pieces of card/sugar paper) around the room.</p>	<p>Compass point cards</p>
<p>Les Pirates!</p> <p>Le capitaine arrive Grimpez vers la voile Lavez le sol Un homme à l'eau/ à la mer Les requins arrivent Un orage se prépare À l'attaque À l'avant À l'arrière À gauche À droite</p>	<p>Pirates game warm-up: call out instructions in quick succession so children have to listen and respond quickly</p> <p><i>Captain's coming</i> - children stand straight & salute <i>Climb the rigging</i> - children mime climbing a rope ladder <i>Scrub the decks</i> - children on knees mime scrubbing the floor <i>Man overboard</i> - children sit down & mime rowing <i>Sharks coming</i> - children lie down & put both legs in air <i>Storm coming</i> - children huddle together <i>Attack</i> - children on one knee as though to fire cannon <i>To the bow</i> - run to the front (you need to define which is front) <i>To the stern</i> - run to the back <i>To port</i> - run to the left <i>To starboard</i> - run to the right</p>	<p>Text cards Photo cards of your own pupils doing the actions (remember to get parental permission)</p> 
<p>Tendez le bras droit ... le bras gauche ... la jambe droite ... la jambe gauche</p> <p>Poussez ... comptez ... 1,2,3,4,etc Inspirez expirez .. Finissez.... détendez-vous ...</p>	<p>Stretch and breathe at beginning & end of PE lesson: <i>Stretch one arm at a time - hold the stretch & count</i> <i>Stretch one leg at a time - hold the stretch & count</i></p> <p><i>Breathe in</i> <i>Breathe out .</i> <i>Finish ... relax</i></p>	<p>Text cards Photo cards as above</p> 

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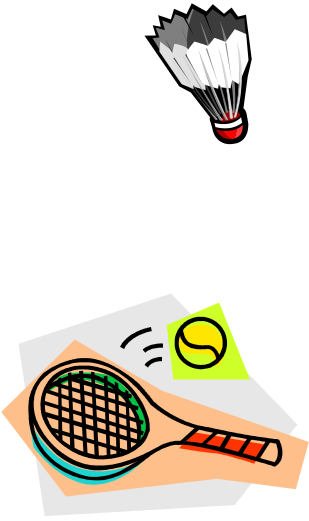
Key Vocabulary	Activity	Resources
<p>En haut, en bas En haut, en bas Lentement, lentement Vite, vite Arrêtez! Encore une fois ...</p> 	<p>Working arms: children follow the instructions given, eg, Put both arms out in front, raise up and lower Raise arms up and lower Raise arms up slowly and lower slowly Raise arms up quickly and lower quickly Put one arm out with hand in a stop signal Repeat the sequence</p>	
<p>Prenez les cerceaux En haut, en bas En haut, en bas Lentement, lentement Vite, vite</p>	<p>Hoops & partner/small group activity: Class divided into partner/small groups sharing hoops (one per group) then lift & lower in time with the chant: <i>Up high, down low</i> <i>Up high, down low</i> <i>Slowly</i> <i>Quickly</i></p>	<p>Large plastic hoops</p> 
<p>Prenez le cerceau avec la main droite ... la main gauche Tournez-vous vers la droite Tournez-vous vers la gauche Marchez, courez, sautez ... Levez le cerceau Baissez le cerceau</p>	<p>Co-operative group work with hoops: Hold the hoop ... (children share hoops eg, 4 children per hoop) ... <i>in your right hand</i> ... <i>in your left hand</i> Turn towards the right (clockwise) Turn towards the left (anti-clockwise) Walk ... run ... jump ... (moving like a record/CD on a turntable) Lift the hoop Lower the hoop</p>	<p>Large plastic hoops</p> 
<p>Marchez ... courez ... Sautez ... Dedans ... Dehors ...</p>	<p>Hoops on floor game: Put the hoops on the floor - space them out Children walk or run around the hoops on floor & follow the instructions called out to: <i>Jump ...</i> <i>Inside the hoop ...</i> <i>Outside the hoop ...</i></p>	<p>Large plastic hoops</p> 

Key Vocabulary	Activity	Resources
<p>La Roue</p> <p>Déroulez le parachute Prenez le parachute avec la main droite ... avec la main gauche Marchez ... vers la droite Courez ... vers la gauche Sautiez ... deux fois, trois fois ...</p>	<p>The Wheel: parachute game unrolling & using parachute</p> <p><i>Unroll the parachute</i> <i>Hold the parachute ...</i> <i>... with your right hand</i> <i>... with your left hand</i> <i>Walk ... clockwise</i> <i>Run ... anti-clockwise</i> <i>Jump ... twice, three times, etc</i></p>	<p>Parachute</p> 
<p>Un, deux, trois, champignon!</p>  <p>Carottes, haricots, tomates, oignons ... champignon!</p> <p>La fusée: 10, 9, 8 3, 2, 1, zéro! Décollage!</p>	<p>Mushroom: prompts for raising the parachute</p> <p>Start with parachute on ground with everybody crouched down holding parachute, ready to raise it. Count together .. <i>one, two, three, mushroom</i> - as you say '<i>mushroom</i>' everybody stands and raises parachute into air.</p> <p>Say the names of vegetables or other nouns before you say '<i>mushroom</i>' so children concentrate on responding to the correct word.</p> <p>Count backwards as though a rocket is about to launch - raise parachute with '<i>lift off</i>'.</p>	<p>Parachute</p> 
<p>Le Jeu du Roi</p> <p>Un, deux, trois, qui veut être le roi?</p> <p>Tournez-vous vers la droite Tournez-vous vers la gauche Marchez ... courez ... sautez ..etc Arrêtez</p>	<p>The King's Game: moving with parachute in response to simple instructions</p> <p>Hold parachute low down - everybody chants together: 'One, two, three, who wants to be the king?'. Choose one child to be 'king'. He/she goes under the parachute and stands up in the middle with their arm above their head as a kind of 'tent-pole'. Direct the other children to move around the king, clockwise or anti-clockwise, walking, running, jumping, etc, while holding parachute, then chant and choose another 'king'.</p>	<p>Parachute</p> 




Key Vocabulary	Activity	Resources
<p>Salade de fruits Eg, citrons, bananes, cerises, fraises</p> <p>Alternatives, eg, weather expressions: il fait froid, il fait chaud, il neige, il pleut</p>	<p>Fruit salad - changing places game</p> <p>Give each child one of four nouns to remember, eg, <i>lemon, banana, cherry, strawberry</i>. Raise parachute. Call out a fruit so all children with that noun have to change places with each other by running under the raised parachute. When you call '<i>Fruit salad</i>' everybody has to change places quickly before the parachute falls to the ground (you may need another adult to help you hold up the parachute)</p> <p>Alternatives: play this with any 4 words/phrases you choose.</p>	<p>Parachute Picture cards for fruits, weather expressions, etc</p> 
<p>Les Animaux</p> <p>Lapins, oiseaux, araignées, serpents</p>	<p>Animals - changing places & saying words game</p> <p>Give each child the name of one of four animals to remember, eg, <i>rabbit, bird, spider, snake</i>. Call out a name, eg, <i>rabbits</i>. All children with this word run clockwise around the outside of the parachute - when they reach their place they run under the parachute into the middle, shout out their word, eg, <i>RABBIT!</i> then return to their place. Try calling out two or three animals together.</p>	<p>Parachute Animal picture cards</p> 
<p>Changez de place si ...</p> <p>... vous avez les yeux bleus ... vous aimez les fraises ...vous adorez vous détestez vous préférez ...</p> <p>... et les cheveux bruns ...mais vous n'aimez pas les bananes</p>	<p>Silent Statements: changing places silently under the parachute</p> <p>Call out a statement. Children for whom the statement is true change places under the parachute. You can start with simple sentences & opinions, eg, '<i>Change places if you have blue eyes ... if you like strawberries ... if you love chocolate ...if you hate spiders ...</i>', etc.</p> <p>Extend these sentences, eg, '<i>Change places if you have blue eyes and brown hair ... if you like strawberries but don't like bananas</i>'</p>	<p>Parachute</p> 

Key Vocabulary	Activity	Resources
<p>La Tempête</p> <p>Qui va dans le bateau? Nounours ou le tigre? (depending on your choice of toy) Bon voyage!</p> <p>Il fait beau Il y a un peu de vent Il y a beaucoup de vent Il fait mauvais Il y a une tempête/un orage</p> <p>Pauvre Nounours . Il a le mal de mer!</p>	<p>The Storm: practicing weather expressions with the parachute</p> <p>Everybody holds the parachute. Show a choice of two soft toys & ask children to choose who is going in the (imaginary) boat. Throw the chosen soft toy into the middle of parachute and say 'Bon voyage' to the toy. Say weather statements so children agitate the parachute gently, then with increasing strength to create a storm effect:</p> <p><i>It's a lovely day</i> <i>It's a little windy</i> <i>There's a lot of wind</i> <i>It's bad weather</i> <i>There's a storm ...</i></p> <p>And then say weather statements so that the ' storm' and parachute movements gradually subside.</p> <p>You can always add '<i>Poor Teddy. He's sea-sick</i>'</p>	<p>Parachute Choice of two soft toys</p> 
<p>Les couleurs</p> <p>Vers ... le rouge ... le jaune ... le vert ... le bleu</p> 	<p>Colours game: working co-operatively to move an object on parachute</p> <p>Throw a soft ball or bean bag onto the parachute. Call out the name of a colour so that children have to work co-operatively to make the ball/beanbag move onto that colour section of the parachute....' <i>Towards the ...red ... yellow ... green ... blue'</i></p>	<p>Parachute Soft ball or toy or beanbag</p>
<p>Le Serpent</p> <p>Faites glisser le serpent ... Vers le rouge ... le jaune ...le vert ... le bleu Faites sauter le serpent ... Deux fois trois fois etc</p>	<p>The Snake game: working co-operatively to move an object on parachute</p> <p>Throw a skipping rope onto the parachute. Call out instructions so that children work together to make the 'snake' respond, eg, <i>'Make it slither towards the red ... yellow ... green blue.</i> <i>Make it jump ... twice ... three times ... etc'</i></p>	<p>Parachute rope</p> 

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<p>La Chasse au Trésor</p> <p>Cherchez quelque chose de bleu marine ... bleu clair ... bleu foncé</p> <p>Cherchez quelque chosepour jouer au badminton ...pour jouer au tennis ...pour la main ...pour le cou ...pour les cheveux ...pour le jardin ...pour une tasse de thé ...pour l'hiver</p> <p>Cherchez quelque chose à rayures ... à pois</p> <p>Secouez/agitez le parachute</p> <p>Qui a gagné, qui a gagné? Hilary ou Daryl? Hilary ou Daryl? Qui a gagné, qui a gagné? Ah, c'est Hilary, ah, c'est Hilary!</p>	<p>Treasure Hunt game: competitive game for individuals or teams with parachute</p> <p>Place 2 pillowcases, containing several objects (eg, small PE equipment or objects relating to your MFL classwork) you have hidden, under the parachute. Choose two people to represent each other or teams.</p> <p>Call out the instruction to '<i>Find something ...navy blue ... light blue ... dark blue ... Find something for playing badminton ... for playing tennis ... for the hand (a bracelet) ...for the neck (a necklace or scarf) ... for the hair (a comb) ... for the garden(a packet of seeds) ... for a cup of tea (a spoon) ... for the winter (could be an Xmas card)</i></p> <p><i>Find something ...stripy ... something spotty'</i></p> <p>The two chosen children run underneath the parachute, rummage through the pillowcases and try to be the first to find the correct object. Meanwhile the other children shake/agitate the parachute to make it harder for those underneath. They could also sing a song, to the tune of <i>Frère Jacques</i>, until the winner emerges:</p> <p><i>Who has won? Who has won? Hilary or Daryl? Hilary or Daryl? (Use children's names) Who has won? Who has won? Ah, it's Hilary Ah, it's Hilary!</i></p>	<p>Parachute 2 pillowcases Selection of objects, eg, different coloured beanbags, tennis ball, shuttlecock Or objects relating to your MFL classwork</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>

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<p>Les Requins</p> <p>Attention! Au secours! À l'aide!</p>	<p>Sharks game: learning to shout for help with parachute</p> <p>All sit on ground with legs stretched out under parachute; one child goes under parachute with hand held up to make shark-like fin shape in parachute, and circulates around. When 'shark' comes near, children can shout warning <i>'Look out!'</i>. Shark chooses a child 'victim' and touches their feet, trying to pull them under. They shout <i>'Help!'</i> before going under parachute and becoming another shark, or swapping places with the shark, (depending on the size of your parachute and the excitement level in your class!).</p>	<p>Parachute</p> 
<p>Câche-câche</p> <p>Où est Hilary? Où est Hilary? La voici, la voici (Le voici, le voici for boys) Bonjour Hilary. Bonjour Hilary. Au revoir, au revoir.</p>	<p>Hide and seek: singing game with parachute</p> <p>Everybody stands holding parachute. Choose one child to go under parachute. Child puts hand up through hole in centre of parachute and waves in time to the song which everybody else sings,:</p> <p><i>Where is Hilary? Where is Hilary?</i> (substitute name of child) <i>There she is, there she is.</i> (or 'There he is ...' for boys) <i>Hello Hilary. Hello Hilary,</i> <i>Goodbye, goodbye.</i></p>	<p>Parachute</p> 
<p>Où habites-tu?</p> <p>J'habite à</p> <p>Il habite à ...</p> <p>Elle habite à ...</p>	<p>Where do you live? Singing game with parachute</p> <p>Everybody stands holding parachute in a low position. One child is chosen to sit/lie on centre of parachute. Everybody sings the line: <i>'Where do you live'</i> to the tune of <i>Nice one, Cyril</i>.</p> <p>The child in the centre responds to the same tune with: <i>'I live in . Hove ..'</i></p> <p>Everybody then responds with a verse of <i>'He/she lives in Hove'</i>.</p>	<p>Parachute</p>
<p>Joyeux Anniversaire</p> <p>Joyeux anniversaire (same line repeated 4 times to the tune of Happy birthday)</p>	<p>The Birthday game: singing game with parachute</p> <p>When a child is celebrating their birthday - ask the birthday girl/boy to choose up to 5 friends to lie down under the parachute. All the others wrap them loosely in the parachute, as though they are birthday presents, (being careful not to suffocate anybody!). Everybody outside the parachute then sings <i>'Happy Birthday'</i> whilst the 'presents' try to unwrap themselves.</p>	<p>Parachute</p> 

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Key Vocabulary	Activity	Resources
Imperative forms of verbs -ez endings to verbs in the vous form parts of speech	Take a moment near the end of the lesson to draw attention to the text cards displayed eg, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> say a word and ask children to point out the matching text card ask what children notice about the end of the marchez, courez, sautez instructions ask pupils to pronounce text cards ask children which parts of speech the display words are, eg, noun, adjective, verb or adverb? 	Text cards Parts of speech bags
Pupils' own choice of vocabulary	Choose children to give instructions for warm-up, stretches & parachute games Let children create their own PE games/activities using instructions in French - they may ask for new vocabulary they'll want to use.	Let children create their own text cards & picture cards

Where to get your parachute:

Kent County Supplies for 3 sizes of parachute
Tel: 0870 600568 & Parachute Play Book
ksales@kent.gov.uk



Where to find ideas for parachute games:

Parachute Games
By Sally Olsen & Jeane Parker
www.ppu.org.uk/sales



www.inewgames.com/parachutegames.htm (Ideas on Video)
www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/parachute.html
www.teachingideas.co.uk/pe/parachute/contents.htm
www.amazon.co.uk for more publications