

France and Paris Read-Aloud Outline

France is known for its architecture, for its delicious food and for the *Tour de France* bicycle race. Explore the streets of Paris with Madeline and abundant cheese choices with Anatole in this scrumptious Read-Aloud.



Everybody Bonjours! by Leslie Kimmelman

Ages 3 to 6

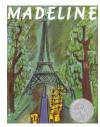
A young girl explores Paris and discovers that everyone says "Bonjour!" instead of "Hello!" This rhyming story is perfect for very young readers. It shows many aspects of Paris, both cultural and architectural, while keeping the text to a minimum.



A Spree in Paree by Catherine Stock

Ages 4 to 10

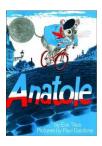
One day farmer Monsieur Monmouton decides to visit Paris. All of his farm animals insist on accompanying him. This silly tale follows the sheep as they shop and the geese that wade in the Seine.



Madeline by Ludwig Bemelmans

Ages 3 to 8

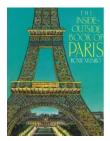
Kids will relate to feisty Madeline, who isn't afraid of tigers or ice. Be porepared to explain that Miss Clavel is a governess and Madeline lives in a boarding school. The rhyming text keeps the story moving and provides the opportunity for kids to guess what comes next. The large, bold illustrations make this book a not-to-be-missed classic.



Anatole by Eve Titus

Ages 6 to 12

Anatole the mouse is upset to discover that humans dislike mice sampling their leftovers. He comes up with an honorable mission: to taste and then to give feedback on the cheese at the cheese factory in Paris. The workers are elated to be able to improve their cheese, and Anatole now has a purpose that makes him proud.



The Inside-Outside Book of Paris by Roxie Munro

Ages 7 to 12

Explore the fabulous architecture of Paris. Discover what's inside those buildings. Building interiors and exteriors, interpreted in a kid-friendly way by well-known illustrator Roxie Munro make this a great read for small groups of older kids.

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More books about France

This is Paris by M. Sasek Ages 5 to 10

Dodsworth in Paris by Tim Egan Ages 4 to 9

Fancy Nancy and the Boy from Paris by Jane O'Connor Ages 4 to 7

Activities

- 1. After reading *Anatole* by Eve Titus, have a cheese-tasting event. Bring in a variety of types of cheese to taste, including some kid-friendly cheeses like Babybel or American cheese.
- 2. Monet-style painting. Claude Monet is one of France's most famous painters. Kids can imitate his style by making finger painting images. Be sure to cover the table with newspaper when painting. http://www.thecraftyclassroom.com/CraftArtistMonet.html
- Make a miniature paper Paris scene using these printables. Provide plain paper and markers or colored pencils to let kids create their own additions. http://madebyjoel.com/2012/01/travel-size-paper-city-paris.html
- 4. The *Tour de France* takes place each July. Use your activity time to learn about the *Tour*. This website gives a good overview of the Tour, even though it's a little bit out of date. http://www.cyclesprog.co.uk/get-cycling/get-ready-the-tour-de-france-is-here/
- 5. Teach and sing the song *Frère Jacques*.

Conversation Starters

- 1. Find France and Paris on a map. What countries and cities are nearby?
- 2. What does the French flag look like? Compare it to other flags that are red, white and blue. How are they the same and different?
- 3. What kinds of foods are traditionally French? Cheese, baguettes, crepes, wine and quiche are a few examples. Bring in some samples and have a taste test.
- 4. How many French words can you think of that we use in English? Some common ones are souvenir, encore, blonde/brunette, RSVP, *déjà vu*, *bon voyage*, beret and *à la mode*.