

European Geography & Cultures Class

Second – Fourth Grade

France

See related blog post on <http://CottonRidgeHomeschool.com> for free PDF Files and images.
The blog post also has links to Map Folder, Stamp Album, and Card File instructions.

A. Introduction to France

1. Read

- Galloping the Globe, page 73
- Children Just Like Me, page 32
- A to Z France (The images in the PDF file provided in the related blog post and my sample cards are based on this book.)

2. Map Folders and Stamp Albums

- Pass out Folders and Stamp Albums.
- Pass out postage stamps from France and stamp hinges.

B. Physical Geography of France

1. Where on Earth

- **Find** the continent of Europe and the country of France on a globe. Have students color France on the map on their folder.
- **Find** Europe and France in the Atlas: start on page 76 of Where on Earth? Atlas, then find the country on page 78. Move on to page 80 to view the landscape, and to page 94 to see it by night.

2. Climate, Population and Wildlife

- **Review** Europe's overall climate on page 90 of Where on Earth? Atlas.
- **Visit** <https://www.weatheronline.co.uk/reports/climate/France.htm> for more information on France's climate.
- **Review** page 92 of Where on Earth? Atlas to see the **wildlife** common across Europe, and don't miss the "**Biomes**" sidebar.
- To find out about animals living in France **visit** <https://about-france.com/wildlife/wildlife.htm>.
- **Read** page 54 – 55 of the DK Children's Atlas about France. **Find out** about French **agricultural** products, major **landforms**, and **water** bodies.

3. Card File – Follow General Card File Instructions.

- **Listen** to *Around the World Stories* from France and/or *Three Musketeers* audio by Jim Weiss while working.
- **Flag** and **Map** Country Cover Card PDF File
- Country **Information** Card PDF File
- **Category** Cards - plain index cards or pre-printed PDF File (you may want to provide samples for students to copy)
- **Images** PDF File for Category Cards

C. People

Choose the activities that interest you the most. Add to your Card File as you learn new things and complete activities. Listen to related music and/or stories while doing projects if possible.

1. Artists

✦ Claude Monet ✦ Paul Cezanne ✦ Henri Matisse ✦ Edgar Degas

- **Read** Where In the World? Around the Globe in 13 Works of Art. Read about Gustave Caillebotte on page 20 and look at his painting on page 18.
- **Look** at French art on the internet or in a library book.
- **Watch** Monet for Children: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ah5g2M14oUM>
- **Watch** a History of Degas for Kids: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kno5WxQ5d1M>
- **Paint** a picture inspired by a French artist.

2. Authors & Poets

✦ Victor Hugo ✦ Emile Zola ✦ Jean de la Fontaine ✦ Moliere.

- **Read** or listen to a French story or poem (list on page 74 of Galloping the Globe).
- **Watch** a movie based on a French story.
- **Listen** to *The Three Musketeers* audio by Jim Weiss.

3. Composers:

✦ Claude Debussy ✦ Hector Berlioz

- **Listen** to the *Story of Berlioz in Words and Music* (VOX Music Masters CD)

4. Prominent People

✦ Joan of Arc ✦ Louis Bleriot ✦ Louis XVI ✦ Marie Antoinette

- **Read** or listen to a story about Joan of Arc.
- **Read** The Glorious Flight: Across the Channel with Louis Bleriot.
- **Read** or listen to a story about Marie Antoinette or the French Revolution.

5: Scientists:

✦ Marie Curie ✦ Louis Pasteur ✦ Blaise Pascal ✦ Nicholas Leblanc

- **Read** or listen to a story about a French scientist.
- **Do** an experiment.
- **Do** crossword puzzle on page 78 of [Galloping the Globe](#).
- **Make** soap: <http://www.confessionsofahomeschooler.com/blog/2010/11/expedition-earth-france-activity.html> and <http://science.irank.org/pages/6209/Soap-history-soap.html>

2. Places & Food

Choose the activities that interest you the most. Add to your Card File as you learn new things and complete activities. Listen to related music and/or stories while doing projects if possible.

1. Landmarks & Attractions

✦ Eiffel Tower ✦ Notre-Dame ✦ Arc de Triomphe ✦ Palais des Papes
✦ Chartres Cathedral ✦ The Louvre ✦ Palace of Versailles

- **Take a Virtual Tour** of the Louvre: <https://www.louvre.fr/en/visites-en-ligne>
- **Make** a Mini Paper City of Paris: <http://madebyjoel.com/2012/01/travel-size-paper-city-paris.html>
- **Build** a LEGO Eiffel Tower: <http://inspirationlaboratories.com/build-the-eiffel-tower/>

2. Events

✦ Tour de France ✦ Bastille Day

- **Watch** a Tour de France event on YouTube
- **Watch** a Bastille Day Parade on YouTube
- **Make** a Bastille Day Collage: <https://www.realcoake.com/bastille-day-activities-for-kids/>

3. Food

- **Read** [Eat Your Way Around the World](#), page 40 - 42.
- **Make** Onion Soup, Tomatoes, Bread.

Find more ideas on my France Pinterest Board:

<https://www.pinterest.com/cottonridgellc/world-geography-cultures/france/>

Checklist for Basic Materials:

- Globe
- Galloping the Globe
- Where On Earth? Atlas
- DK Children's World Atlas
- Children Just Like Me
- A to Z France (or similar book)
- Map Folders, Stamp Albums, Stamps & Hinges
- Card File materials including printed PDF files (see general instructions)
- Music and/or Story CDs
- Stories from England by <https://www.aroundtheworldstories.com>
- iPad or Computer with internet connection for research (optional)

Checklist for Projects:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Checklist for International Food Dishes:

- Eat Your Way Around the World cookbook *or* Recipes
- Recipe ingredients: _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____