



MFL Sunderland Primary French Podcasts

lesson

33

Welcome to the MFL Sunderland Primary French podcast. Lesson 33 – Our sporting lives

In this lesson you will learn how to say eight sports that you play or do.

Listen to the eight sports that we will be using in this lesson:

le football	<i>football</i>
le tennis	<i>tennis</i>
le cricket	<i>cricket</i>
le rugby	<i>rugby</i>
le skate	<i>skateboarding</i>
le vélo	<i>cycling</i>
la danse	<i>dance</i>
la natation	<i>swimming</i>

Maintenant, à toi. Ecoutez, répétez.

Sports

le football	(pause)	le football	(pause)
le tennis	(pause)	le tennis	(pause)
le cricket	(pause)	le cricket	(pause)
le rugby	(pause)	le rugby	(pause)
le skate	(pause)	le skate	(pause)
le vélo	(pause)	le vélo	(pause)
la danse	(pause)	la danse	(pause)
la natation	(pause)	la natation	(pause)

You'll have noticed that several of these sports are very similar to their English equivalents; they are cognates. For more information about cognates, listen to the podcast for lesson 15. Also, six of the sports are masculine and the other two feminine. For more information about this, listen to the podcast for lesson 7A.

Now we are going to build the sports up into sentences to say that we play or do them. To do this, we need two verb forms:

je joue *I play*

je fais *I do*

Maintenant, à toi. Ecoutez, répétez.

je joue (pause) je joue (pause)

je fais (pause) je fais (pause)

The next step is working out which are the “playing” sports and which are the “doing” sports. Essentially, if it makes sense to say “play” in English, then you use “je joue”. If it doesn’t, then you use “je fais”. All the sports in French are either one or the other, even though in English we have other options like “I go swimming”.

With the “playing” sports, we have to change the “le” to “au”. “Au” is a combination of “à” and “le”. “À” means “at”, so you are literally saying that you are playing “at” a sport. For example:

Je joue au tennis *I play tennis*

Je joue au cricket *I play cricket*

For the masculine “doing” sports, you need to change the “le” to “du”. “Du” is a combination of “de” and “le”. “De” means “of”, and “du” means “some”, so you are saying that you are doing some of the sport. For the feminine “doing” sports, you change the “la” to “de la”. For example:

Je fais du vélo *I go cycling*

Je fais de la danse *I do dancing*

Maintenant, un petit test. Now, a little test. Say the English after the French.

Je joue au rugby (pause) *I play rugby*

Je fais de la natation (pause) *I go swimming*

Je joue au football (pause) *I play football*

Je fais du skate (pause) *I go skateboarding*

Now say the French after the English.

I play cricket (pause) Je joue au cricket

I do dancing (pause) Je fais de la danse

I play tennis (pause) Je joue au tennis

I go cycling (pause) Je fais du vélo

Being sports, there are several kinaesthetic activities that you can do to practise these phrases with your class. Get them to work out an action for each one, so that when they say or hear the phrase they can make a physical response, which will help them to remember better. You could play "Jacques a dit" (Simon says) using these same actions.

If you are able to use a bigger space, such as the school hall, why not have a go at Musical Statues? When the music stops, call out one of the phrases and the children have to freeze while miming the sport. Children can work in groups to form tableaux. Call out a sport phrase, then count down (in French!) from ten to one, after which time the groups have to make a tableau representing that sport, in which all the children take part.

That's the end of this podcast. If you think you need a bit more practice, go back to the beginning and work through the activities again.

Au revoir !