



# MFL Sunderland Primary French Podcasts

lesson

40

## Welcome to the MFL Sunderland Primary French podcast. Lesson 40 – Meet the animals

In this lesson you'll learn how to say the names of the animals in Saint-Saëns's *Carnival of the Animals*. You'll also learn how to say some of the recurring phonemes in those animal names.

### Saint-Saëns

The French composer Camille Saint-Saëns was born in Paris in 1835. He was a precocious child who started to play the piano at the age of two and who could read and write at the age of three. The *Carnival of the Animals*, a musical suite of fourteen movements and one of his best-known works, was completed and performed for the first time in 1886. Despite its immediate popularity, Saint-Saëns forbade complete performances of it. He had written it as a musical joke, and believed that it would damage his reputation as a serious composer. He allowed only "The Swan" to be published during his lifetime.

### Les animaux

Here are the eleven animals that we are going to be practising in this lesson:

le lion	the lion
le coq	the cockerel
le kangourou	the kangaroo
le poisson	the fish
le coucou	the cuckoo
l'éléphant	the elephant
l'âne	the donkey
l'oiseau	the bird
la tortue	the tortoise
la poule	the hen
le cygne	the swan

*Maintenant, à toi. Ecoutez, répétez.*

le lion (pause) le lion (pause)  
le coq (pause) le coq (pause)  
le kangourou (pause) le kangourou (pause)  
le poisson (pause) le poisson (pause)  
le coucou (pause) le coucou (pause)  
l'éléphant (pause) l'éléphant (pause)  
l'âne (pause) l'âne (pause)  
l'oiseau (pause) l'oiseau (pause)  
la tortue (pause) la tortue (pause)  
la poule (pause) la poule (pause)  
le cygne (pause) le cygne (pause)

*While practising these animal names, we come across three important French phonemes.*

*First there is the "ou" sound, which we hear in kangourou, coucou and poule.  
In English the grapheme ou makes an "ow" sound; in French it is "ou".*

*The second is the "u" sound, which we hear in the word tortue.  
The French "u" makes a very different sound to the English "u".*

*And finally there is the "oi" sound, which we hear in oiseau and poisson.  
The grapheme oi in English makes an "oy" sound, but in French it is "oi".*

*Have a go at saying these phonemes. Ecoutez, répétez.*

OU (pause) OU (pause)  
U (pause) U (pause)  
Oï (pause) Oï (pause)

*We have already come across these phonemes in other words. Ecoutez, répétez.*

mouton (pause) mouton (pause)  
souris (pause) souris (pause)  
salut (pause) salut (pause)  
super (pause) super (pause)  
trois (pause) trois (pause)  
noir (pause) noir (pause)

Phonemes

**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 !**

