

Rosa's Animal Adventure: French Vocabulary Challenge

Learning objective: To identify, spell, and categorise common animals in French and use them in simple descriptive sentences.

Read the passage below with Rosa the parrot. Use the word bank to help you complete the tasks. Ensure you use the correct definite articles (le, la, l') where required.

Bonjour! I am Rosa. Today, we are exploring the animal kingdom in French. In the jungle, I see un grand lion. In the blue ocean, Finn the dolphin swims; he is un dauphin. At home, many people keep un chien or un chat as pets. If you look up at the sky, you might spot un petit oiseau. Ellie the elephant, or un éléphant, has a great memory, while the quiet mouse, une souris, likes to hide. Remember, in French, we must match the article to the gender of the noun!

Word bank: un chien (a dog) · un chat (a cat) · un oiseau (a bird) · un lion (a lion) · un éléphant (an elephant) · une souris (a mouse) · un dauphin (a dolphin) · le, la, l' (the) · est (is) · petit (small) · grand (big)

1. Translate the following sentence into French: 'The cat is big.' Remember to use the correct gender agreement. (2 marks)

2. Explain why we use 'un' for 'lion' but 'une' for 'souris'. What does this tell you about French nouns? (3 marks)

3. Compare and contrast: If you wanted to describe a tiny bird, how would you write that in French using the word 'petit'? (2 marks)

4. Justify your answer: If you were describing Finn the dolphin, would you describe him as 'grand' or 'petit'? Write a full sentence in French to justify your choice. (3 marks)

5. What might happen if you mixed up the genders of the nouns? Explain the impact on the sentence structure. (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene featuring a lion and a dolphin. Label each animal in French using the correct article (e.g., 'le lion').



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph in French (4-5 sentences) about your favourite animal. Include its size (grand or petit) and one other descriptive feature using your own research or vocabulary.