Quelle heure est-il ? Telling the Time in French

About 15 minutes. Grown-up tip: Ask your child to tell you the time in French whenever they see an analogue clock during the day.

Use this poster to master the French clock! To say 'It is...', start with 'Il est...' followed by the hour. For example: 'Il est deux heures' (It is two o'clock). Remember to add 'et quart' for 15 minutes past and 'moins le quart' for 15 minutes to.

■ The phrase 'Il est trois heures' translates to 'It is three o'clock'. Write the French for 'It is four o'clock'.

■ When the long hand is on the 3, we say 'et quart'. Why is this useful when reading an analogue clock face?

■ Explain why 'Il est une heure' uses 'une' instead of 'un'. Think about the gender of the noun 'heure'.

■ Look at the clock face. If the short hand is on 6 and the long hand is on 6, the time is 'Il est six heures et demie'.

■ Rosa the parrot says 'Il est dix heures moins le quart'. This means it is a quarter to ten.

Did you know? Did you know? In France, many people use the 24-hour clock for travel, such as train times at stations in Paris or Lyon. If it is 3:00 PM, they say 'quinze heures' (15:00).

Key vocabulary: Quelle heure est-il? (kell ur ay-teel) - What time is it? · Il est... (eel ay) - It is... · une heure (oon ur) - one o'clock · et quart (ay kar) - quarter past · et demie (ay dum-ee) - half past · moins le quart (mwan luh kar) - quarter to