

# A day in the life of Lucie

## a 2nd grade *externé* at the Lycée International



My day starts early today. Not as early as Monday, when my mom has to take my sister, Lili, to school early so she can take me to the Lycée International. Today is Thursday, so we are not as rushed.

I wake up, get dressed, then have breakfast with Lili. Crepes! My other sister, Maïa, gets to sleep late since she is in Middle School and her class starts late today. Lucky!

When we leave to go to French school, I remember to take my blue book bag. I have two bags to keep track of my French and American classes. Luckily, I double checked my bag, because my mom got confused and put my English books in my French bag. Oops!

French school was fun this morning, and I enjoyed seeing my friends. A lot of kids ask me why I don't go to the Lycée full time. I tell them I would be sad because I wouldn't get to see my French friends. I have a lot of friends in the neighborhood, and it is easy to get together with them on weekends.

I do some math at French school and a little bit of conjugation. My teacher gives me the work that I am going to miss that afternoon while I am at the Lycée. It is a French conjugation worksheet that looks a little hard. My teacher teaches English in my French class in the afternoon, and she knows that I am not missing much then! Sometimes I get to help her with pronunciation. That is fun!



At lunchtime, my mom comes to get me. I have my book bag with me to take home. Some kids used to ask me why I was leaving with my book bag at lunch, but they have stopped asking. They understand that I am going to another school in the afternoon.

Since I am the only one home for lunch, my mom makes my favorite. I like it when she cooks things my sisters don't like, so I get it just for me. She makes fish and broccoli. Yes, I really do like broccoli. Surprised?



When we leave to go to American Section class, I switch bags. Yes, we have forgotten to switch them. My mom is good at turning the car around and running back to get the right bag.

Lili used to use the purple bag for French school, but now it is mine and I use it for American Section. This has confused my mom!



I wait for my teacher on the Lycée International playground. There are lots of kids here! 541 children go to this school full-time (the *internes*) and the different groups of *externés* rotate though, so that each grade is here two half day per week. There are 700 *externés* at the Lycée in all.

All the second graders (CE1) from all the sections have section classes on Monday mornings and Thursday afternoons. My sister Lili is in Fourth Grade (CM1), so she comes to the Lycée on Tuesday afternoons and Friday mornings.



I am really excited to get to American Section. There are two American Section Second Grade classes, with thirty-one children enrolled. Twenty-three of us are *externés*, and eight go to the Lycée full-time.

My teacher, Ms. Pedraza, is so much fun and smiley. I feel really comfortable when I am in American Section class. I like my French teacher, too, but it is different.

In American Section class, we read a lot. At the beginning of every class we get to 'shop' for lots of books. When we have a question about a word, we just ask our teacher. She helps us figure out what it means. In American Section it is o.k. to make mistakes, because we learn from them.



After we pick out our books it is time for Reader's Theater, when we read and act out different plays. We read through the script and highlight our lines. Then we perform the plays for each other.

It is really fun to work in a group. We don't do that at my French school. In Section, we move around a lot and talk a lot to others. I like hearing other kids read.

After recess we have Writer's Workshop. Today we are working on our All About book. We have to write about something we know well. I am an expert at arts and crafts, so I decided to write about that. We use a web to organize our thoughts. Then we write a paragraph.



After our afternoon American Section class, we have either art or library class. Today my group has art. My mom is an art volunteer, so sometimes she is in class to help. I'm proud when she is the art helper!

I love art! I love it so much! My teacher, Lisa, is so much fun and we learn really interesting things and use cool art supplies. Today we had a lesson about only looking at the object you are drawing, not at the paper you are drawing on. I was a little nervous about not seeing what I was drawing, but I like a challenge. I am going to try this at home.



After art class, my mom comes to get me. I am quite tired and it is good to be home! I still need to finish that worksheet my French teacher gave me before dinner. I will do my American homework this week-end. It usually takes 45 minutes to an hour.

But for now I am helping my mom make dinner! I hope you enjoyed reading about my day.

