

12 FRENCH IMMERSION FACTS

1 Starting French immersion early provides students with the best chance of developing fluency and bilingualism. Younger students are able to better integrate new vocabulary, and learn a new language's unique structure, grammar, syntax and expressions.

2 French immersion students often think, and even dream, in French.

3 French immersion is designed for students who do not speak French at home. It is not necessary to have a French speaker at home in order for students to succeed with homework and school assignments.

4 Learning multiple languages develops new neural pathways that enable students to grasp language as a concept, further strengthening their performance in all languages.

5 It's generally easier for a French immersion student to learn a third or fourth language. Students can identify linguistic patterns and similar root words in English and French to help them understand the structures and syntax of new languages.

6 French immersion students generally score better than their English-only peers on English standardized tests.

7 While students will learn the basics of French by the end of elementary school, it is essential to continue in French immersion through high school, and even post-secondary studies, to achieve greater mastery of the language.

8 French immersion high school graduates are considered highly desirable candidates for both French and English post-secondary programs.

9 Independent, well-rounded students, who are creative problem-solvers, like French immersion students often are, stand out in post-secondary environments.

10 Research shows that learning a second language enhances focus, critical thinking, problem solving and empathy.

11 Learning a second or third language encourages openness to other cultures and ways of life.

12 French immersion students learn all students in French, including math and sciences. This equips them with more vocabulary and opportunities to work collaboratively in French-speaking environments.

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