**Games for practicing vocabulary, phonemes, rhyming, pronunciation of alphabet:**

Hangman (or Bonhomme de neige):

Students take turns picking a word from their vocabulary list or a word that’s been used a lot lately. They put a dash for each letter in the word. Students around the table take turns guessing a letter that might be in that word. If they guess correctly, the letter is written in overtop of the dashes to begin to fill in the word. If they guess incorrectly, the letter is written underneath the word to show it’s been guessed and the student who picked the word adds part of the Bonhomme de neige’s body (good chance to practice body parts: le bras, le nez, etc.).

This game gets kids using the French alphabet, practicing their pronunciation of letters in French. It seems basic but it’s a very important skill. They need to hear you or another French speaker saying those letters a lot, too, so it’s good to play this game as a whole class.

Also, you can add in a penalty (skip a turn, count to ten in French or sing Frère Jacques) for blatant mispronunciation but this might not suit every class or student.

Snap:

Again, working with the vocabulary from something you’ve been studying (weather, Carnaval, etc.). Students each have a stack of cards from which they take the top card and flip it over at the same time onto the table. The cards might have pictures of the words that have been learned (animals, for example) or they might be random words, some of which have a specific phoneme in them (e.g. le “-eau/ô/au-aux found in *bateau, allô, animaux*).

If cards match in some way (ie, they are from the same lexical category or they rhyme, students have to shout out “SNAP!” and grab an object from the middle of the table. The student who first grabs the object gets to keep the cards on the table. You play until someone has all the cards at their table.

**Attention-Grabbers for the Core French Classroom:**

Try these calls and responses to get students’ attention (similar to clapping a rhythm and having them repeat it back to you):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Teacher says...** | **Students say...** |
| Bonjour, je m’appelle…  Un, deux, trois…  Deux, quatre, six…  Lundi, mardi,...  Janvier, février,...  Aujourd’hui, c’est…  Écoutez,...  Regardez…  Un, deux, trois…  La main lévée (teacher puts hand up)...  Les mains sur la tête... | …(students shout out their own name)  ...quatre, cinq, six!  ...huit, dix, douze!  ....mercredi!  ...mars!  ...vendredi!  ...s’il-vous-plaît!  ...s’il-vous-plaît!  ...on ne parle pas!  ...la bouche fermée (mime zipping mouths)!  ...on arrête! |