

Over 175 Cartoons & Kids Shows to Watch in French on NETFLIX

BY DEANNA TOUSIGNANT



My children are in a French Immersion school, which means eighty-some-percent of the day they are taught in French. My own French is not exactly stellar. I mean I have the basic “I learned this in grade school because I am Canadian” level of French, which my kids, who are in 1st and 4th grade, are already surpassing.

Yesterday I was doing the dishes with my seven year old, Gigi, and she was excitedly telling me about watching *Paw Patrol* at school *en français*. We were drying dishes, and she was dancing and jumping up and down with excitement as she told me about *La Pat’ Patrouille*. She also told me they watched *Sid the Science Kid* for science class today, and yes, of course, it was in French.

I told her that I was pretty sure we could watch *Paw Patrol* and other shows in French, right here at home, on Netflix. Since dinner wasn’t ready yet, and we were both due for a break from dishwashing duties, I offered to see if I could find some French cartoons on Netflix right then. We settled on *Sid the Science Kid*. It took me a bit of fiddling to remember how to change the language on a show. *Sid* wasn’t available in French. Oh but wait...

there was also a *Sid the Science Kid Movie* listed, and that one had French as an option.

Gigi, of course, insisted I watch with her. We snuggled down with my iPad mini to watch twenty minutes of the movie. My thought process was along the lines of — “Oh my goodness, they talk so fast. Do people talk that fast in English? Did he just say something about outer space? Wow, I don’t have a clue what is going on.” I couldn’t follow along quickly enough. I caught maybe one word in ten. My daughter, however, was giggling while watching it, so I have to assume she understood at least some of what was happening.

Big sister, Grace, walked in and asked what we were watching. She told me she didn’t want to join in because she couldn’t understand every word. This made me feel a little better about my own bewilderment, but it also made me pause and think... Wait a sec kiddo, you’re in 4th grade at a French Immersion school, you get decent grades, and you don’t want to watch the cartoon because you don’t understand everything they are saying? Nope, nope, nope. Not cool.

I took Grace aside and had a conversation with her about understanding things “in context”, about learning new vocabulary, and about how enjoying shows *en français* was one of the ways she would get better with her understanding of French. I mean obviously, the school thinks there is some value to having kids watch French language cartoons since they show French television frequently.

And that’s why last night I made a vow that no matter how much it may confuse or bore me, part of our streaming from now on will be in French. I even made a list of shows, ones that my kids enjoy, and that Netflix has the French language option available for.

The first thing I noticed is that *Paw Patrol* is only available in English. However, *Magic School Bus* is available in French and so is *Voltron: Legendary Defenders* and that new Julie Andrews show *Julie’s Greenroom*. In fact, I quickly noticed that all of the Netflix Exclusive shows (like *Voltron*, *Troll Hunters*, *Julie’s Greenroom*, *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, etc) are available in multiple languages. Which I guess makes sense because Netflix is probably aiming to develop content to be shared throughout their global market.

When you click on the language icon, a list of available languages will pop up. It will show options for both audio and subtitles. Note: you may need to wait a few seconds to let the episode load. The language icon will be greyed out until

things are loaded and ready to go.

The picture **below** is what it looks like on my iPad. The one just above that, where it shows *Dragons Race to the Edge*, is what it looks like on a desktop PC. If you’re on a different platform (say Xbox or Apple TV) the layout may be a bit different, but the idea is the same, look for that icon and click on it to see your language options.

After clicking through cartoon after cartoon to see if they offered French language as an option, this is the list I came up with:

Children’s TV Shows available in French on Netflix:

- 72 Cutest Animals, Season 1
- A Series of Unfortunate Events, Seasons 1 & 2
- All Hail King Julien, Seasons 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5
- All Hail King Julien: Exiled, Season 1
- Alvin!!! And the Chipmunks, Season 1
- Animal Mechanicals, Seasons 1 & 2
- Beat Bugs (the Beatles covers are sung in English, the spoken parts are in French), Seasons 1 & 2
- Ben & Holly’s Little Kingdom, Season 1
- Bo on the Go, Season 1
- Boj, Season 1
- Botternikes & Gumbles, Seasons 1 & 2
- Care Bears & Cousins, Seasons 1 & 2 (specifically says “Canadian French”)
- Clifford the Big Red Dog, Seasons 1 & 2
- Clifford’s Puppy Days, Seasons 1 & 2
- Danger Mouse: Classic Collection, Season 1 (but not Seasons 2 through 10)
- Dawn of the Croods, Seasons 1, 2, 3 & 4
- Digimon Fusion, Seasons 1 & 2
- Dinotux, Seasons 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5
- Dinotux Supercharged, Seasons 1, 2 & 3
- Dragons: Race to the Edge, Seasons 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
- Edgar Rice Burroughs’ Tarzan and Jane, Season 1
- Floogals, Season 1
- Free Rein, Seasons 1 & 2
- Frozen Planet, Season 1
- Goosebumps, Season 1 (but not seasons 2, 3, 4 or 5)
- H2O Mermaid Adventures, Seasons 1 & 2
- Iron Man: Armored Adventures, Seasons 1 & 2
- Johnny Test, Seasons 1 & 2
- Julie’s Greenroom, Season 1
- Julius Jr., Seasons 1 & 2
- Kazoops, Seasons 1, 2 & 3
- Kong: King of the Apes, Seasons 1 & 2
- Kulipari: An Army of Frogs, Season 1
- Legend Quest, Season 1
- Little Princess, Seasons 1, 2 & 3
- Little Witch Academia, Seasons 1 & 2
- Llama Llama, Season 1
- Luna Petunia, Seasons 1, 2 & 3
- Masha and the Bear, Seasons 1 & 2 (but not Season 3)
- Masha’s Tales, Season 1
- Mia and Me, Seasons 1 & 2
- Miraculous: Tales of Ladybug & Cat Noir, Season 1 (originally a French show)
- My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic, Seasons 3, 4, 5 & 6 (but not Seasons 1, 2 or 7)
- Pac-Man and the Ghostly Adventures, Seasons 1 & 2
- Paw Patrol, Seasons 1, 3 & 4 (but not 2)
- Peppa Pig, Seasons 2, 3 & 4
- Planet Earth II, Season 1
- Pocoyo, Seasons 1 & 2 but not 3
- Pocoyo Halloween: Spooky Movies
- Pokemon the Series: Sun & Moon, Season 1

Netflix Original shows, like Dragons: Race to the Edge, are available in Dutch, English, French, German and Spanish.



To check if a show is available in French you need to pick out an episode/movie and let it start playing. Then look for the language option icon.

SEE THE ARROW ON THE SCREEN TO THE LEFT

- Pokemon: Indigo League, Season 1
- Pokemon: XY, Seasons 1 & 2
- Pokemon: XYZ, Season 1
- Popples, Seasons 1, 2 & 3
- Power Rangers (several different movies and series, all seem to be available in French)
- Project Mc2, Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
- Puffin Rock, Seasons 1 & 2
- Seven and Me, Season 1
- Simon, Season 1
- Skylanders Academy, Seasons 1 & 2
- Sonic Boom, Season 1
- Spirit Riding Free, Seasons 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5
- Spy Kids: Mission Critical, Season 1
- Star Trek: The Animated Series, Seasons 1 & 2
- Super Monsters, Season 1
- Super Why, Season 1
- Super Wings, Season 1 (but not Season 2)
- Teen Titans Go!, Seasons 1, 2 & 3 (but not Season 4)
- The Adventures of Chuck and Friends, Seasons 1 & 2
- The Adventures of Puss in Boots, Seasons 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
- The Blue Planet: A Natural History of the Ocean, Season 1
- The Boss Baby: Back in Business, Season 1
- The Deep, Seasons 1 & 2
- The Furchester Hotel (BBC spinoff of Sesame Street), Seasons 1 & 2
- The Hollow, Season 1
- The Koala Brothers, Season 1
- The Magic School Bus, Season 1 (but not Seasons 2, 3 or 4)
- The Magic School Bus Rides Again, Seasons 1 & 2
- The Minimighty Kids (originally in French), Seasons 1 & 2
- The Mister Peabody and Sherman Show, Seasons 1, 2, 3 & 4
- The Ollie & Moon Show, Season 1
- The Worst Witch, Seasons 1 & 2
- Transformers Prime, Season 1, 2 & 3
- Transformers: Rescue Bots, Seasons 2 & 3 (but not Seasons 1 or 4)
- Transformers: Robots in Disguise, Seasons 1, 2 & 3
- Trollhunters: Tales of Arcadia, Parts 1, 2 & 3
- Turbo Fast, Seasons 1, 2 & 3
- Voltron: Legendary Defender, Seasons 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
- Wakfu, Seasons 1, 2 & 3
- Wanda and the Alien, Season 1
- Word Party, Seasons 1, 2 & 3
- Yakari (originally in French), Season 1
- Yo-Kai Watch, Season 1

Family Movies and Feature Length Children's Shows in French:

- 3 Ninjas: Kick Back
- A StoryBots Christmas
- Air Bud: Golden Receiver
- Alpha & Omega: The Legend of the Saw Tooth Cave



- Antz (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Astro Boy (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Beat Bugs: All Together Now
- Bee Movie (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Benji (2018, Netflix original, not the 1974 version)
- Casper's Haunted Christmas
- Casper's Scare School
- Chicken Run
- Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs
- Coco (look for the one that says French Canadian version)
- Disney Nature: Born in China (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Disney Nature: Growing Up Wild (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Dragons: Dawn of the Dragon Racers
- Dreamworks Happy Holidays from Madagascar
- Dreamworks Holiday Classics
- Dreamworks Spooky Stories
- Dreamworks Spooky Stories Volume 2
- Duck, Duck, Goose
- Ernest & Celestine (originally in French)
- Frozen Planet: On Thin Ice
- Ghost Patrol
- Hoodwinked (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Hotel Transylvania
- How to Train Your Dragon (the movie) (specifically says "Canadian French")
- How to Train Your Dragon: Legends
- Joseph: King of Dreams
- Kung Fu Panda
- Kung Fu Panda 3
- Kung Fu Panda: Holiday
- Kung Fu Panda: Secrets of the Scroll (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Kung Fu Panda: Awesome Secrets Collection, Volume 1
- LEGO Jurassic World: The Indominus Escape (specifically says "Canadian French")
- LEGO Marvel Super Heroes: Avengers Reassembled!
- LEGO: Marvel Super Heroes: Maximum Overload
- Little Witch Academia
- Little Witch Academia: The Enchanted Parade
- Madagascar
- Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted
- Marvel Super Hero Adventures: Frost Fight (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Marvel's Hulk: Where Monsters Dwell (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Megamind (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Moana (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Monster Island
- Monsters vs Aliens (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Open Season 3
- Over the Hedge
- Pete's Dragon (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Pokemon the Movie: Diancie and the Cocoon of Destruction
- Pokemon the Movie: Hoopa and the Clash of Ages
- Pokemon the Movie: Volcanion and the Mechanical Marvel
- Pup Star: Better 2gether
- Pup Star: World Tour

- Russell Madness
- Sahara
- Shark Tale
- Shrek
- Shrek
- Shrek the Third (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Shrek Forever After
- Shrek the Halls
- Shrek's Swamp Stories
- Sinbad Legend of the Seven Seas
- Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron
- Spy Kids (specifically says Canadian French)
- Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Spy Kids: All the Time in the World (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Tellur Aliens
- The Adventures of Shark Boy Lava Girl
- The BFG (specifically says "Canadian French")
- The Boxtrolls (specifically says "Canadian French")
- The Clone Wars (the animated movie, not the series) (specifically says "Canadian French")
- The Guardian Brothers
- The Little Prince
- The Parent Trap
- The Prince of Egypt
- The Road to El Dorado
- The Smurfs
- The Swan Princess
- The Tale of Despereaux
- Tinkerbell and the Legend of the Never Beast (specifically says "Canadian French")
- Transformers Prime Beast Hunters: Predacons Rising
- Wallace & Gromit: Curse of the Were-Rabbit

So it turns out *Paw Patrol* IS available in French, but only season 2, not season 1 or 3. And the only reason I discovered this is because I had a very persistent first grader at my elbow, singing the Paw Patrol theme song *en français* and insisting it MUST be on there. This discovery led to me going back and checking each season individually for some of her other favourite shows and we found that later seasons of *My Little Pony* ARE available in French. So if there's a particular show your little one is in love with, it's worth checking each season individually.

Here's another trick. *Finding Dory* doesn't have French audio as an option, but if you search under *Trouver Doris* the film is there in French (specifically says "Canadian

French"). Same goes for *Zootopia*, *Le Bon Dinosaur* and *Raiponce* (aka *Rapunzel*).

This film is no longer currently available on Netflix, but the same concept of searching for the French title version still continues to apply for some Disney films, e.g. *La Belle et La Bête*

I am sure there are many more French language kids' shows streaming on Netflix. This is just a partial list, based mainly on which shows my kids, who are ages 7 and 9, enjoy watching. I am also aware that not all translations are created equal (and for the most part I wouldn't recognise a bad French translation if it bopped me over the head). Still, encouraging my girls to consume media in French at home certainly can't hurt, and I am hoping it will help with their vocabulary and pronunciation.

Of course, Netflix is constantly adding new shows, and removing old ones, so if you are reading this post a few weeks, or months, after I published it, the list may no longer be accurate. However, the same principles will still apply. There are tons of kids' shows available to stream in French on Netflix, and you can find them by clicking through and checking the language options (and remember to check different seasons of the same show). ■



Longtime Canadian mom blogger, **Deanna Tousignant** has been writing about her adventures through the everyday for over 8 years. Her work has also appeared in Canadian Family and Yummy Mummy Club. Check out her website, MapleLeafMommy.com, where you'll find stories about travel, family, food and fun.

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