

# School in the USA by Christina

Elementary schools in France are similar to schools in the USA but also differ in many ways. I will explain a few aspects of elementary school life in the USA.

## **The French School System vs. the American School System:**

Cours préparatoire (CP) – 1<sup>st</sup> grade

Cours élémentaire 1 (CE1) – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

Cours élémentaire 2 (CE2) – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

Cours moyen 1 (CM1) – 4<sup>th</sup> grade

Cours moyen 2 (CM2) – 5<sup>th</sup> grade

Elementary school	
Preschool	4-5
Kindergarten	5-6
1st Grade	6-7
2nd Grade	7-8
3rd Grade	8-9
4th Grade	9-10
5th Grade	10-11

## **School Days and Vacation:**

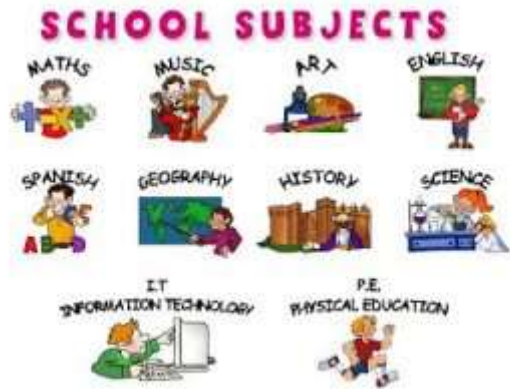
Students are in school from 8am to 3pm, 5 days a week (M - F)

. They have 4 days of holidays in November for Thanksgiving, 1.5 weeks for Christmas and New Years, and 1 week for Easter / Spring break. Students have a 3 month vacation for summer break.



## **School Subjects:**

Students learn math, science, history, and a language. Students also have P.E. class (physical education ), music class, and an art class.



## **School Materials:**

Students bring a backpack to school to transfer their school materials to and from school. Because students bring their own lunches, students bring lunch boxes. The most used materials in the classroom include: three ring binders, pencils, erasers, pencil cases, folders, notebooks, glue sticks, and rulers.



## **Transportation:**

The way students are transported to and from school depends on the size of the city. However, many students take a big yellow bus to school. A big yellow school bus picks up students at their homes or at a designated bus stop within the city. Students ride to and from school together on this bus. Carpooling is also another popular way to get to and from school where students will ride with one another.



**After School Activities:**

Students often participate in after school activities once the school day has ended. Many schools offer after school programs

that allow students to play sports, learn musical instruments, or create art projects.

