



# The Mini Page

**Next Week:**  
Summer Olympics

Issue 28, 2024

Founded by Betty Debnam



## Bonjour, Paris!

photo by Benh LIEU SONG

On Friday, July 26, the Summer Olympics will open in Paris, France. The games will continue through Sunday, Aug. 11.

This week, The Mini Page learns more about the French capital and all it has to offer.

### Bienvenue à Paris

Paris is the largest city in France, with more than 2 million residents. It's sometimes known as the City of Light.

Millions of people visit Paris to explore museums and famous landmarks, such as the Arc de Triomphe, Notre-Dame and the Eiffel Tower.



photo by Kainet

The Arc de Triomphe is a monument to those who fought and died in the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars.

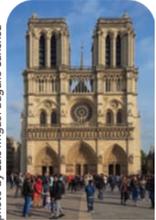


photo by Luis Miguel Bugallo Sánchez

Notre-Dame is a Catholic cathedral. It is being rebuilt after a fire destroyed a large part of the building in 2019.



photo by Benh LIEU SONG

The Eiffel Tower, or Tour Eiffel (TOOR ee-FELL), was built in 1887 for the 1889 World's Fair in Paris. Almost 6 million people visited the tower in 2022.

### France

France, part of the European Union, is located in Western Europe. It is the largest of the EU countries. Paris lies in the north of the country.



image by Thinker78

Around the 1st century, the area was ruled by the Roman Empire and the Franks, a tribe from Germany. Over the years, England and France battled for land, and by the 17th century, France was the most powerful country in the region. Both world wars brought much destruction to France.

### Working in France

Many people in France work in service industries, such as tourism or banking. Cars, aircraft, medicines, clothing and cosmetics are also produced there. Farmers grow wheat, cattle, pigs and chickens. France is known for its cheeses and wines.

### Sports in France

The Tour de France, the world's most famous bicycle race, is held every summer. This year's competition is underway now and will end on July 21.



photo by C. Martino

The French Open tennis tournament, one of professional tennis's four Grand Slam contests, is held in May and June in Paris.

### French art

Claude Monet, a French artist, was the founder of the Impressionist movement. This approach to art tries to capture an "impression" of a scene instead of an exact image.



"Impression, Sunrise" was painted by Claude Monet in 1872.

Some of your favorite stories may be from French author Charles Perrault, who wrote familiar versions of "Little Red Riding Hood," "Cinderella," "Puss in Boots" and "Sleeping Beauty."

### Fancy food and clothing

Paris is a center of *haute couture*

(OAT koo-TOOR), or high fashion. Designers such as Chanel, Dior and Givenchy started there. Expensive perfumes are also produced in France.



image by Simon Ackerman

Cooking and dining are important to French people. They enjoy streetside cafes and small butcher and grocery stores and bakeries.

A model shows off a dress during Paris Fashion Week.

## Resources



### On the Web:

- [bit.ly/MPFrance](http://bit.ly/MPFrance)

### At the library:

- "Around Paris" by Daniela Celli
- "Paris 2024 Summer Olympics Journal" by Kyle Matson

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## Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of Paris are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:

- BICYCLE, CAPITAL,
- CHEESE, CITY, EIFFEL,
- EUROPE, FRANCE,
- FRENCH, IMPRESSIONIST,
- LANDMARK, LIGHT,
- MONET, OLYMPICS,
- OPEN, PARIS, RACE,
- SUMMER, TOURISM, WAR,
- WINE.

T S I N O I S S E R P M I F W  
Z E M S I R U O T B C I T Y K  
T H G I L N L A N D M A R K E  
O L Y M P I C S S L S S C C  
W E H C N E R F A Z I N H E N  
I H P D L E L T X R Z E R I A  
N Z A O M S I R A Q E P H F R  
E L F M R P L P A S N O R F F  
K M U S A U D F E W M O N E T  
N S E C A R E L C Y C I B L N



## Mini Jokes



**Franc:** Why do the French eat snails?

**Fiona:** They don't like fast food!

## Eco Note



Climate change has allowed one of the world's most common types of mosquito to reach Scotland for the first time on record, joining the swarms of biting midges that have long thrived in the country's mild and wet summers. Heather Ferguson from the University of Glasgow says she has been surprised to find at least some of 16 common varieties of mosquitoes in all corners of the country. But experts stress that the types of mosquitoes that can carry malaria, West Nile and other diseases are unlikely to arrive in Scotland anytime soon.

adapted with permission from Earthweek.com

## Cook's Corner

### French Parfait

#### You'll need:

- sliced strawberries
- blueberries
- vanilla Greek yogurt



\* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

#### What to do:

1. In a clear plastic cup, place a layer of strawberries, then a layer of yogurt, then a layer of blueberries. (The ingredients are the colors of the French flag.) Repeat the layers to the top.
2. Use a toothpick and colored paper to make a French flag to stick on top. Serves 1.

1. Contests and games in programs of sports, etc. (6-letter plural noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □

2. Prize awarded for achievement or honor (5-letter noun)

□ □ □ □ □

3. Working with discipline to make ready for a test of skill (8-letter noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

4. Lands or nations with their own governments (9-letter plural noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

1. Olympic \_\_\_\_\_ begin on July 24.
2. With the best score, the athlete earns a gold \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Athletic \_\_\_\_\_ in gymnastics lasts for many years.
4. Many \_\_\_\_\_ participate in the Olympic Games.

### ROOTONYM®

by Jan & Carey Orr Cook



Study the definition. When you know the missing word, fill in the letter boxes and the sentence blanks.

Answers: Events, Medal, Training, Countries.

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### For later:

Look in your newspaper for articles about the upcoming Summer Olympics.

**Teachers:** Follow and interact with The Mini Page on Facebook!



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