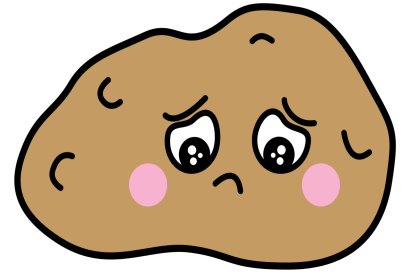


Patate chaude ABC, 123



Goal: to practice French vocabulary (alphabet or numbers)

Supplies: a soft ball or something else to throw gently

How to Play:

1. *Before playing:* choose the vocabulary to practice (e.g., alphabet or numbers), and the goal (e.g., A-Z, 1-31). Review these ahead of time in class.
2. Students stand in a circle in the classroom or outside.
3. The first student holds the “potato” (ball) and says the first of the set (e.g. “un” (1)).
4. The first student throws the potato to another student in the circle, and they have to say “deux” before throwing it to a third student.
5. Remind students that the potato (ball) is hot, so they have to say the number quickly and toss the ball to another player. If they are unable to respond in five seconds, or so, have the circle of students call it out in unison.
6. *Decide before playing:* When the ball is dropped or a letter forgotten, you can decide whether the play continues until you reach your goal or whether it starts from the beginning again.

Variations:

- This could be used to review any kind of vocabulary. For example, if you learned colours, students could say a colour when they get the “hot potato”; they would have to listen to say a colour that hasn’t already been said. This could also work for sports, months, food, clothing items, etc.
- If you’re finding that students are always passing to their friends, you could include a criteria where every student has to touch the potato at least once in order to accomplish the goal.
- This can also be used to practice questions. Each time a student catches the hot potato they could answer a question, and then ask a question to the next person. For example,
 - “Comment ça va?” [Throws]
 - [Catches] “Ça va bien! Comment t’appelles-tu?” [Throws]
 - [Catches] “Je m’appelle Louise. Quel âge as-tu?” [Throws, etc]