JEUNES REPORTERS 2027

Fieldwork guide

Use this guide before you go out to report for **Jeunes reporters**. Your aim is to come back with enough first-hand information to write an original article in French for readers who may be discovering your community for the first time.

Choose an angle

Pick one question you can explore through a visit, interviews or a document you can check. A clear angle helps you decide whom to speak to and what to look for.

Example. “A community garden” is a topic. “How does a community garden help young people learn to grow their own food?” is an angle. You could speak to a young gardener and the person who runs the garden, then observe what happens during a session.

Write your angle in one sentence before you leave. You can revise it if your reporting takes you in a different direction.

Before you leave

- ☐ Read the competition rules and the article template. Plan which photos could help tell the story.
- ☐ Check the location, opening times and who you need to contact. If you need access to a school, workplace or event, arrange it in advance.
- ☐ Tell someone you trust where you are going and when you expect to return. If you are under 18, agree on the visit with a parent, guardian or teacher beforehand.
- ☐ Prepare five open questions. Plan to speak to people who can offer different perspectives, where possible.
- ☐ Pack a notebook and pen, a charged phone, and a power bank if you have one. Check that you have space for photos or recordings.

Introduce yourself and ask permission

Explain that you are preparing an article for a competition and that the article may be published. Ask how the person would like to be named. Ask for permission before recording an interview or photographing someone, and explain how you may use the material. For an identifiable child, check with their parent or guardian before using their name or photo.

Bonjour, je m’appelle ____. Je prépare un article pour le concours « Jeunes reporters » sur ____. Est-ce que je peux vous poser quelques questions ?

Est-ce que je peux enregistrer notre échange pour vérifier mes notes ?

Est-ce que je peux citer vos propos et mentionner votre nom dans mon article ?

Est-ce que je peux prendre une photo pour illustrer mon article ? Il pourrait être publié.

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Questions you can ask in French

- **Comment cela a-t-il commencé ?** / How did it start?
- **Qu'est-ce qui a changé depuis ?** / What has changed since then?
- **Pouvez-vous me donner un exemple précis ?** / Can you give me a specific example?
- **Quelles difficultés avez-vous rencontrées ?** / What difficulties have you faced?
- **À qui d'autre pourrais-je parler pour mieux comprendre le sujet ?** / Who else could I speak to to understand the story better?

If an answer is vague, follow up with **Quand ?**, **Combien ?** or **Comment le savez-vous ?** You can interview someone in the language they are comfortable with. If you translate a quotation for your French article, keep the original wording in your notes and check that the translation preserves the meaning.

Record what you find

Copy this table into your notebook. Keep what you saw, what someone told you and what a document says distinct in your notes.

Record	What to write down
Visit	Date, time, place and one detail you observed yourself
Interview	Name and spelling, role, date, exact quote and permission to use it
Fact to check	The number, date or claim, who supplied it and where you can verify it
Photo	Filename, who or what it shows, where and when it was taken, photographer's credit and permission to use it
Follow-up	A question you still need to answer and whom you can ask

Before you write

- [ ] Check spellings, dates, figures and key claims against your notes or a reliable source.
- [ ] Choose one detail or scene to open the story. Explain any local names, acronyms or references an international reader may need.
- [ ] Attribute quotes and claims. If you cannot verify a statement, leave it out or make clear who said it and what remains uncertain.
- [ ] Select relevant photos, add captions and credits, and check permissions.
- [ ] Write your own article in French and follow the competition template. The competition allows a spellchecker and prohibits AI-generated writing.