

All about **Les Animaux**

French people really love their pets. Walk around any French city and you'll see lots of people out walking their little dogs. Let's take a closer look at French pets and pick up some of that pet lingo too!



We Brits do love our pets – around 12 million U.K. households have one! It's a similar story in France with 14 million cats and almost 8 million dogs in French households. **Sacré bleu!**

So, let's have a look at the French words for some of their most popular pets. As always, we have a **handy pronunciation guide** in **red font**, so don't be shy and give it a go!

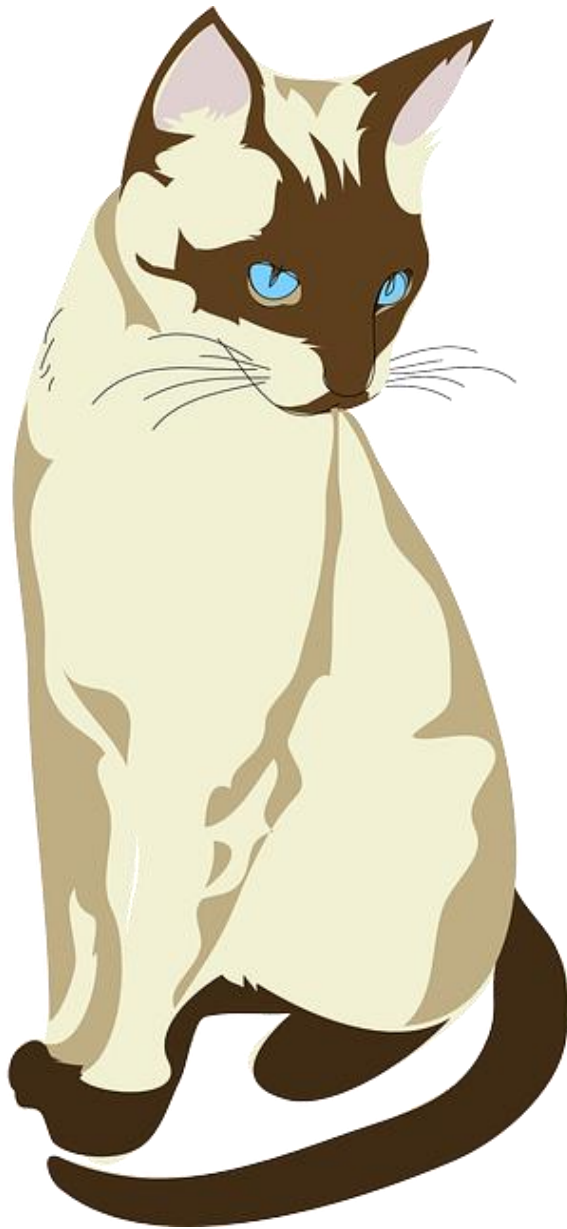
Say each word out loud a few times until you feel like you've got the pronunciation down to a T! **Allons-y!** (Let's go!)



Un chien
(Ahn shee-ah)
A dog



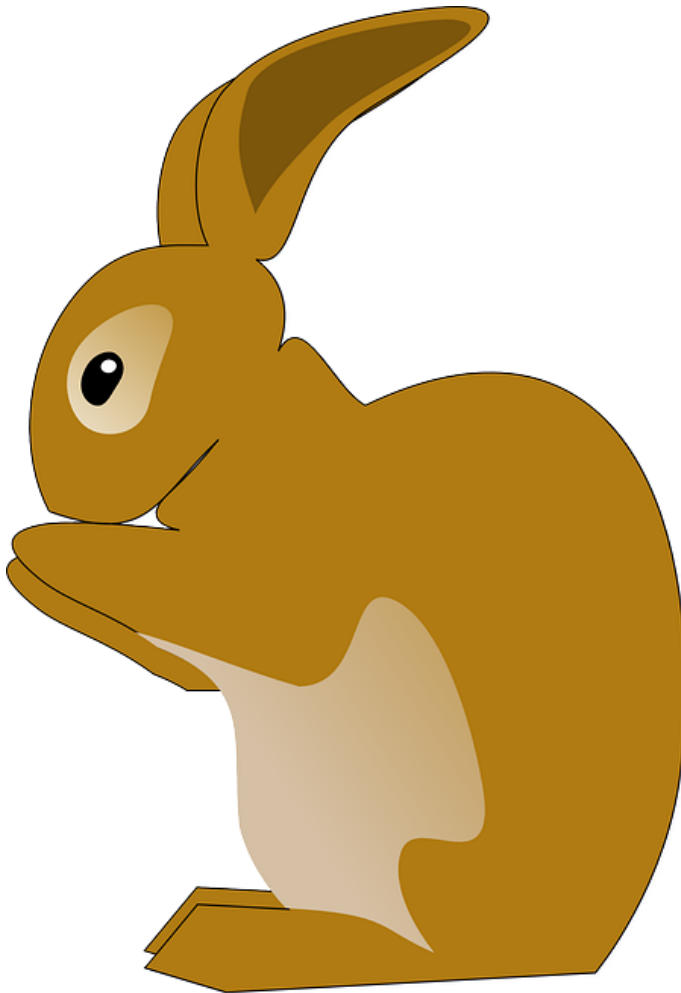
Now try this one...



Un chat
(Ahn shah)
A cat



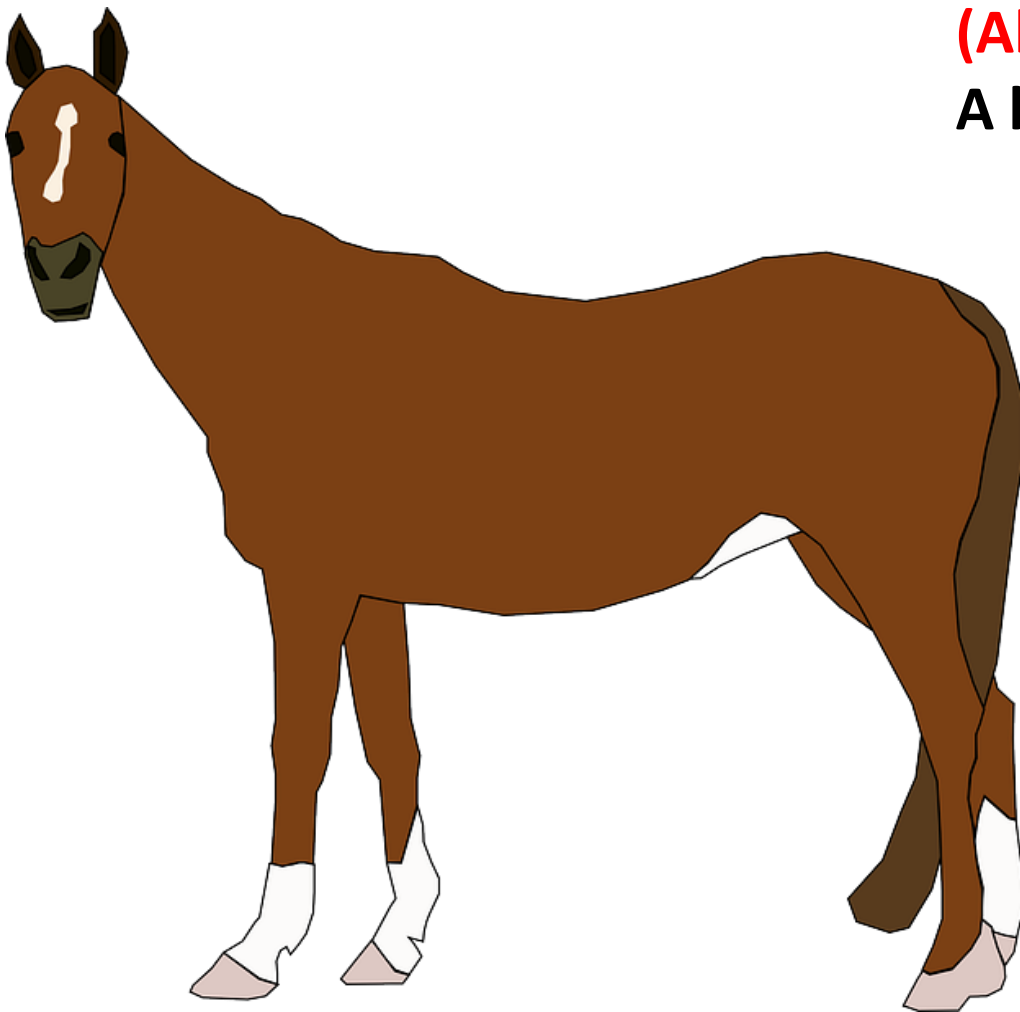
... and this one



Un lapin
(Ahn la-pah)
A rabbit



... now this one

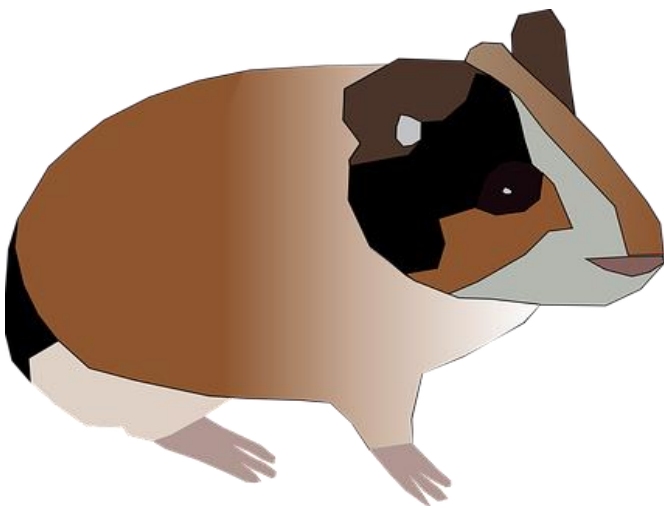


Un cheval
(Ahn shih-val)
A horse

... and finally, these two smaller creatures



Un poisson rouge
(Ahn pwa-saw rooj)
A goldfish



Un cochon d'Inde
(ahn co-shaw dand)
A guinea pig

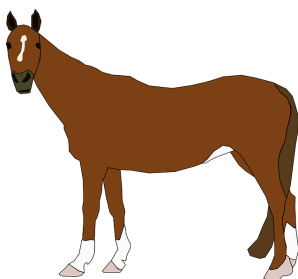
Now that you've become acquainted with some French animals, can you draw a line to match up the following pictures to their correct French description?



Un chien
(Ahn shee-ah)



Un cheval
(Ahn shih-val)



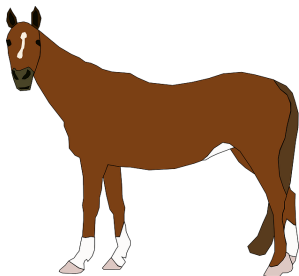
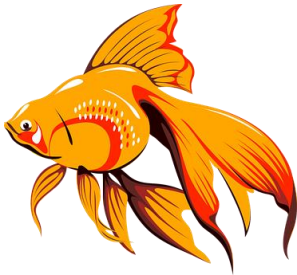
Un chat
(Ahn shah)



Un poisson rouge
(Ahn pwa-saw rooj)

Did you manage to match up the pets with their French names?

Here are the answers:

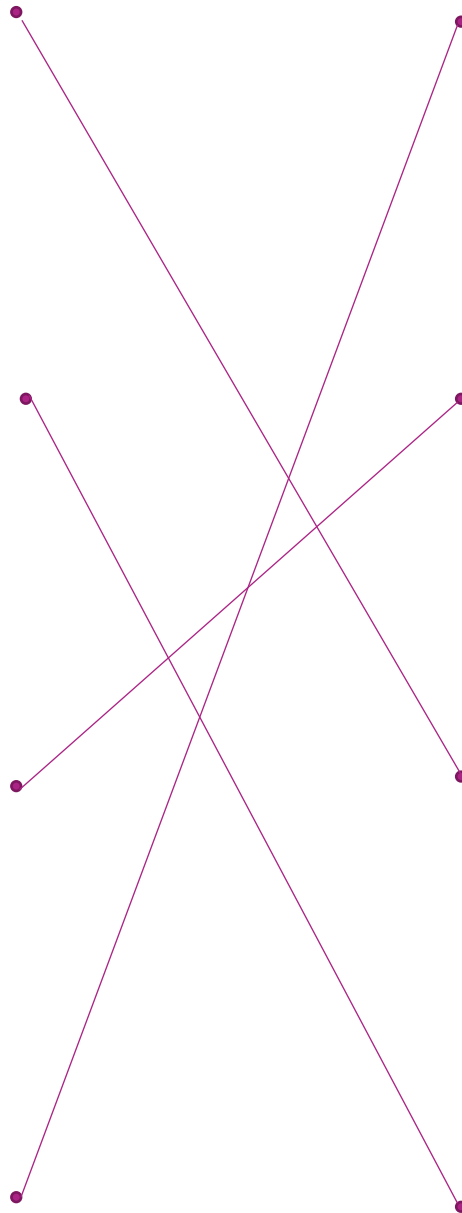


Un chien
(Ahn shee-ah)

Un cheval
(Ahn shih-val)

Un chat
(Ahn shah)

Un poisson rouge
(Ahn pwa-saw rooj)





Let's now have a look at asking and answering a pet-related question in French...

Q> Vous avez des animaux à la maison?

(Vooz away dayz a-nee-mo a la may-zaw?)

Do you have any pets?

A> Oui, j'ai un chien

(Wee, jay ahn shee-ah)

Yes, I have a dog

How would you answer the above question if you had the following pets? Can you say 'Yes, I have a cat' and 'Yes, I have a goldfish' in French?



Un chat
(Ahn shah)



Un poisson rouge
(Ahn pwa-saw rooj)

▶ Joke Time!

Q> Why shouldn't you eat French fish?

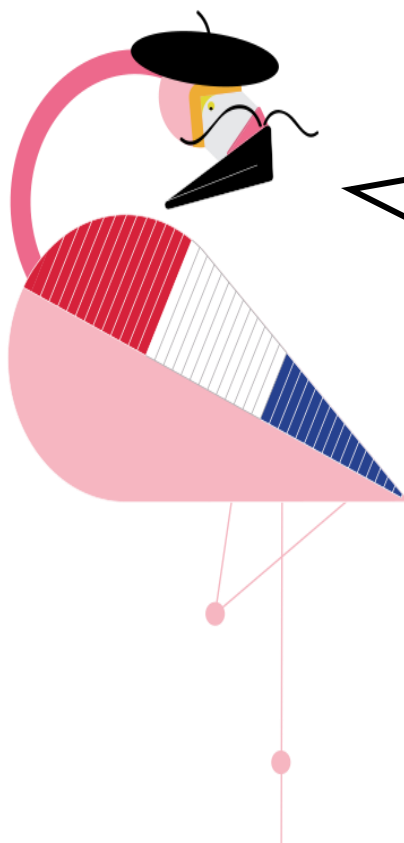
A> Because they are poisson!

Q> Why do French people eat snails?

A> They don't like fast food!

Q> Why are French rabbits such show-offs?

A> They love lapin up all the attention!



Fun fact: the French word for 'you're joking!' is '**vous plaisantez!**'
(voo play-zon-tay)

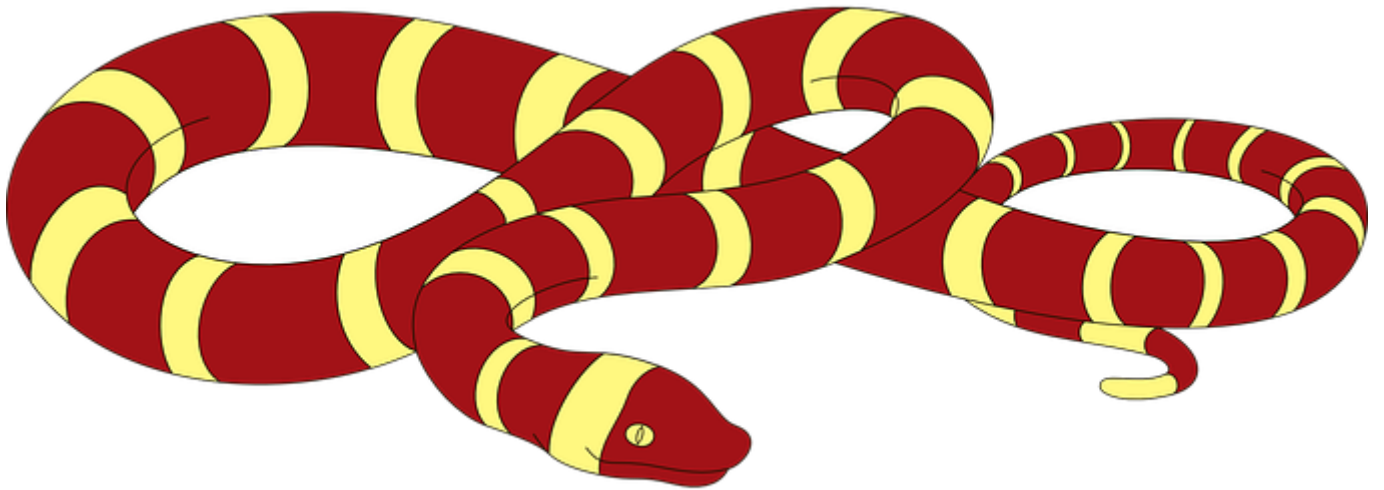
Of course, some people prefer to keep more exotic pets. The French are no exception to that rule. Napoleon's wife, Josephine, kept emus, kangaroos and orangutans. Author Gérard de Nerval even had a pet lobster named Thibault that he walked around the streets of Paris on a blue leash!

With that in mind, let's take a look at the names of some more exotic creatures in French. Again, say the name of each animal several times until you've mastered the pronunciation like a true French local!



Un singe
(Ahn sanj)
A monkey

Now, try this one...

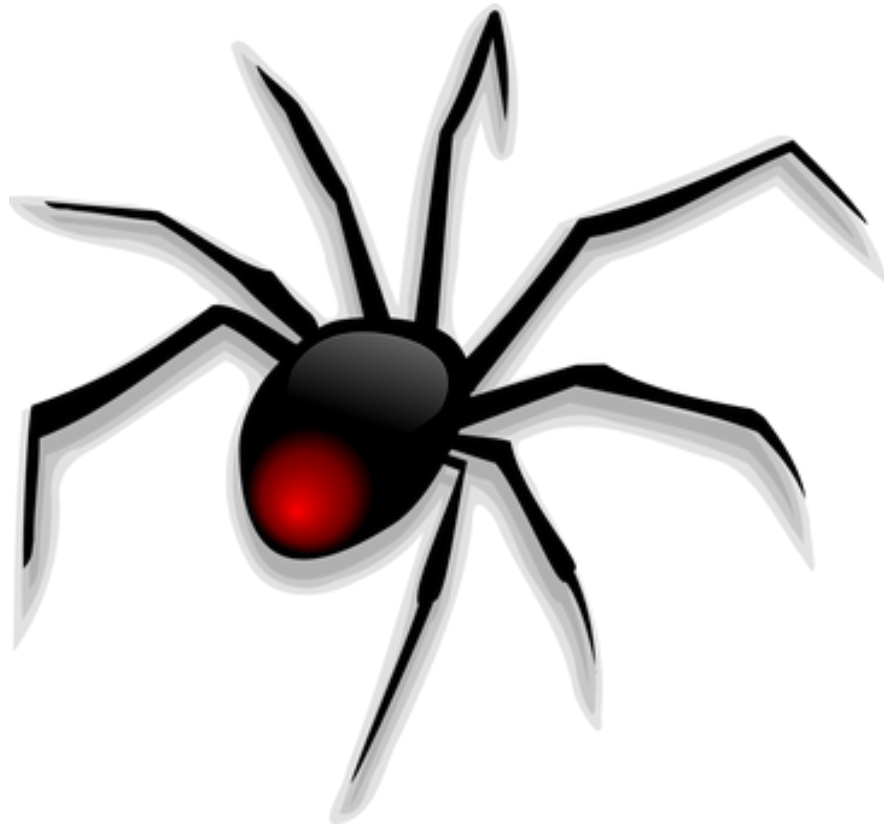


Un serpent

(Ahn ser-paw)

A snake

... and this one...



Une araignée
(oon a-rain-yay)
A spider

...and lastly, this one...



Un perroquet
(ahn perro-kay)
A parrot

Now, put your thinking berets on and try to unscramble these four exotic pet anagrams. Write your answers on the dotted lines.

1. N U P E N R E S T

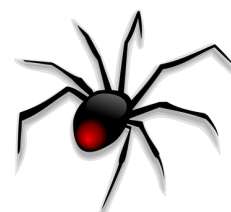
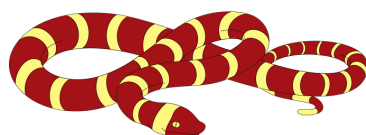
.....

2. N U N E S I G

.....

3. E N U G A R É N I A E

.....





Answers:

Were you right? Here are the answers to our exotic pets anagrams:

1. N U P E N R E S T



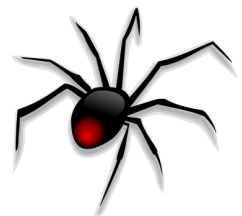
UN S E R P E N T

2. N U N E S I G



UN S I N G E

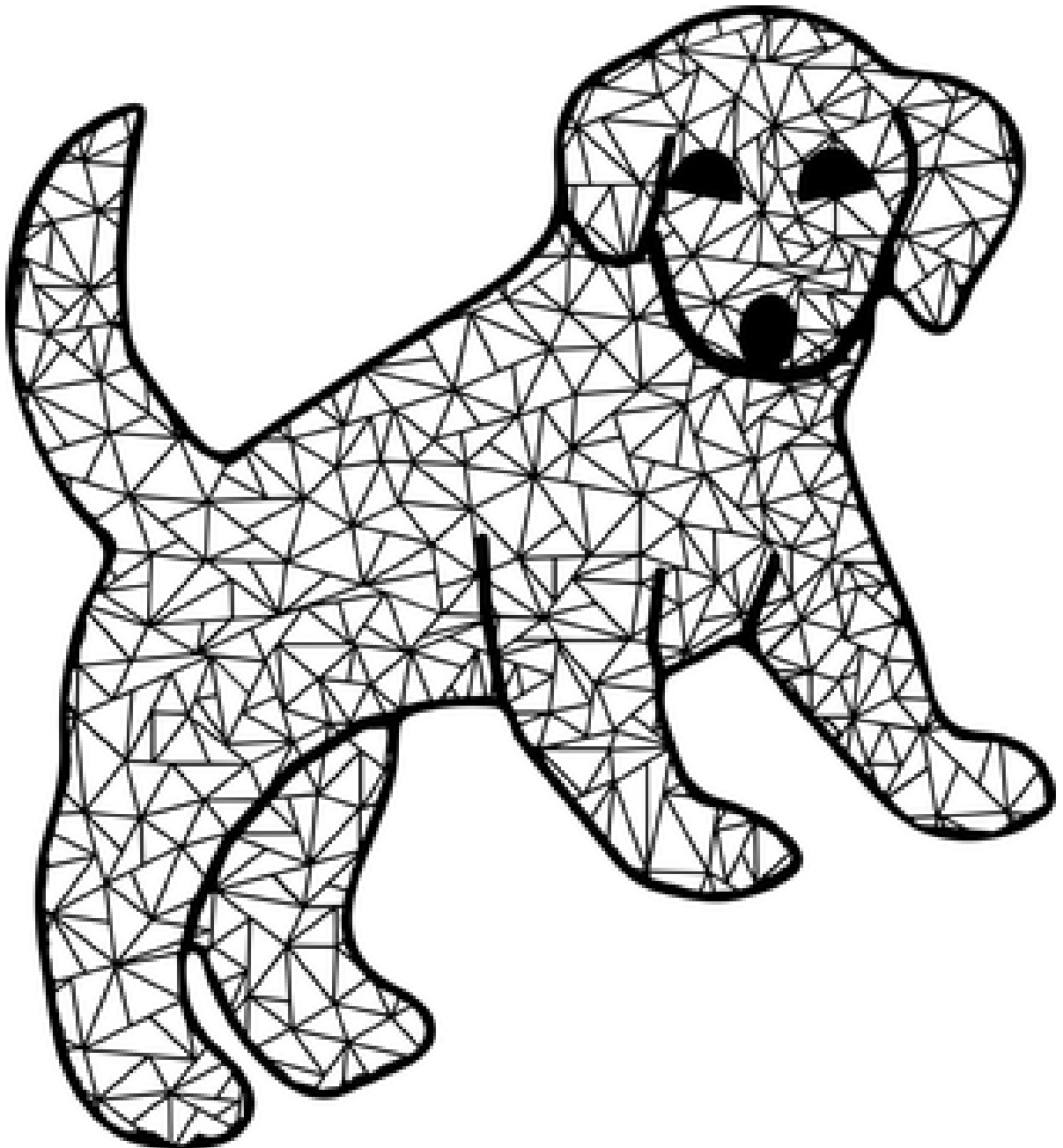
3. E N U G A R É N I A E



UNE A R A I G N É E

Bon travail! (Good work!)

Now it's time to release your inner artist. Here is
un petit chien for you to colour in...



Fantastique! Now, can you find the 10 French animal names hidden within the wordsearch below? (You'll find the answers on the next page).

Les Animaux

P	O	I	S	S	O	N	R	O	U	G	E	E	A
N	N	U	S	O	N	I	R	H	O	R	V	O	N
O	A	P	N	I	D	E	H	S	D	E	C	O	R
N	D	N	E	R	E	P	I	T	V	L	U	N	T
C	E	E	N	G	I	A	R	A	S	A	O	O	A
C	L	O	E	N	O	O	A	C	G	L	I	S	S
P	C	H	A	T	S	I	N	G	E	P	I	H	S
D	O	V	C	U	N	O	S	E	R	P	E	N	T
N	E	I	H	C	C	O	L	A	P	I	N	S	O
S	I	R	U	O	S	E	R	H	G	N	U	E	E
E	I	O	C	O	C	H	O	N	D	I	N	D	E
P	V	A	V	A	O	E	N	D	I	R	I	C	O
H	I	S	I	H	L	A	V	E	H	C	S	S	I
E	O	G	C	I	O	T	N	N	O	C	D	E	N

CHEVAL	CHAT	COCHON D'INDE	POISSON ROUGE
CHIEN	LAPIN	SERPENT	ARAIGNEE
SOURIS	SINGE		

Answers: Wordsearch solution:

P	O	I	S	S	O	N	R	O	U	G	E	E	A
N	N	U	S	O	N	I	R	H	O	R	V	O	N
O	A	P	N	I	D	E	H	S	D	E	C	O	R
N	D	N	E	R	E	P	I	T	V	L	U	N	T
C	E	E	N	G	I	A	R	A	S	A	O	O	A
C	L	O	E	N	O	O	A	C	G	L	I	S	S
P	C	H	A	T	S	I	N	G	E	P	I	H	S
D	O	V	C	U	N	O	S	E	R	P	E	N	T
N	E	I	H	C	C	O	L	A	P	I	N	S	O
S	I	R	U	O	S	E	R	H	G	N	U	E	E
E	I	O	C	O	C	H	O	N	D	I	N	D	E
P	V	A	V	A	O	E	N	D	I	R	I	C	O
H	I	S	I	H	L	A	V	E	H	C	S	S	I
E	O	G	C	I	O	T	N	N	O	C	D	E	N

Super! We hope you have enjoyed learning about French animals today and will join us again for our next language lesson.

À la prochaine! (See you next time!)