

Christmas French lesson

- I felt learning about Christmas was a fantastic opportunity to explore some Francophonie cultures as well as a French Christmas.
- I chose to research and learn about Christmas in Cameroun with the children.
- I felt it was important that they learnt about Cameroun as a country, so started off by showing them some pictures, a map, listening to the national anthem and learning about their currency before delving into their Christmas celebrations.
- As the climate is so different from in Britain (and France), I think it was valuable for the children to see how Christmas celebrations can be very different in other countries.
- At the end of the lesson, we consolidated our learning with a quiz and all the children had remembered some things about Camerounian customs at Christmas.

Bonjour la classe!

Watch the video- What do you think we are learning about today?
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sGlXYeiCz_4

Lesson objectives

Learn about Christmas in France and Francophonie countries





Noël en France et pays de Francophonie!



Joyeux Noël!!!



Et bonne année!





Le réveillon de Noël



In France, people like to
gather on the night before
Christmas for **le**
réveillon de Noël...



The tradition is to go to
the **Messe de
Minuit** (which is not
at midnight anymore)



Before going to
bed, kids leave
their slippers
under the
christmas tree

Why do they leave their
slippers under the Christmas
tree?



The legend says that a woodcutter had to sell his three daughters on Christmas night because they were starving.



Saint-Nicolas was passing by and got touched by the situation and threw three bags of gold through the fireplace.

The first one landed on a sock that was drying near the fire, the second one on a clog and the third one on a slipper that was under the Christmas tree.





Le Père Noël



As in many other countries, Santa Claus visits French houses to deliver presents. His name is **Le Père Noel.**

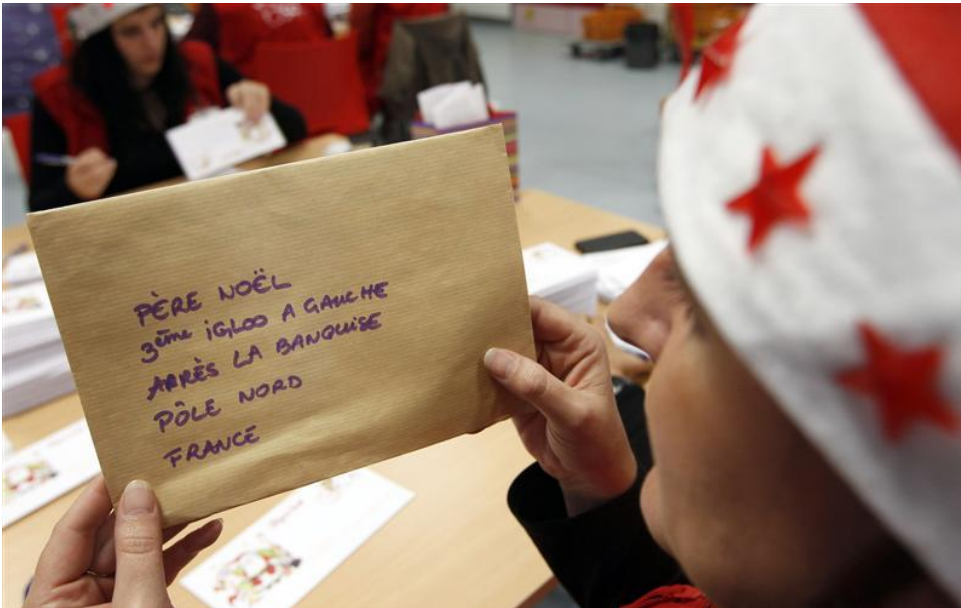


Ho Ho Ho



In 1962, the French Post opened the **Secrétariat
du Père Noël** (Santa's post service).

French kids can send their '**Liste de Noël**' to
Santa





Le repas de Noël



La bûche de Noël is the famous French Christmas dessert.

It is shaped in the form of a yule log.
It is always decorated with little plastic or sugar trees, elves, Santas...



For centuries on the night before Christmas, the tradition was to have a log burning on the fireplace as slowly as possible. It is supposed to burn for the twelve days between Christmas and New Year's Eve.





Les traditions en Francophonie

Focus on
Cameroon



Cameroon

Republic of Cameroon (French: *République du Cameroun*), is a country in [west-central Africa](#).



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Motto:

"Paix – Travail – Patrie" (French)
"Peace – Work – Fatherland"

Continued:

- Independence from France in 1960
- Independence from UK in 1961
- Currency: Central African Franc (CFA)
- Official languages: French and English
- Lots of different regional languages



Christmas in Cameroon

- Most of the population are Christians so they attend candlelit masses and carol services



Christmas tree



The traditional Christmas tree in Cameroon is the local Cypress tree which can be found decorated with banana leaf and orange ornaments.



Food

- fufu (a dough made out of plantain, cassava or yams)
- Achu soup (yellow soup made from cocoyam)
- ndolé (a nut and ndoleh stew).



Clothes

- People dress up in their best clothes to celebrate Christmas.
- Traditional Cameroonian dress:



Now, it's time for a
Christmas quiz...



1. What is « Le réveillon de Noël »



- A. The night before Christmas
- B. Christmas day
- C. Boxing day

2. The « Messe de minuit » is always at midnight



- A. TRUE
- B. FALSE
- C. I don't know

3. Why do we put
our slippers under
the tree ?

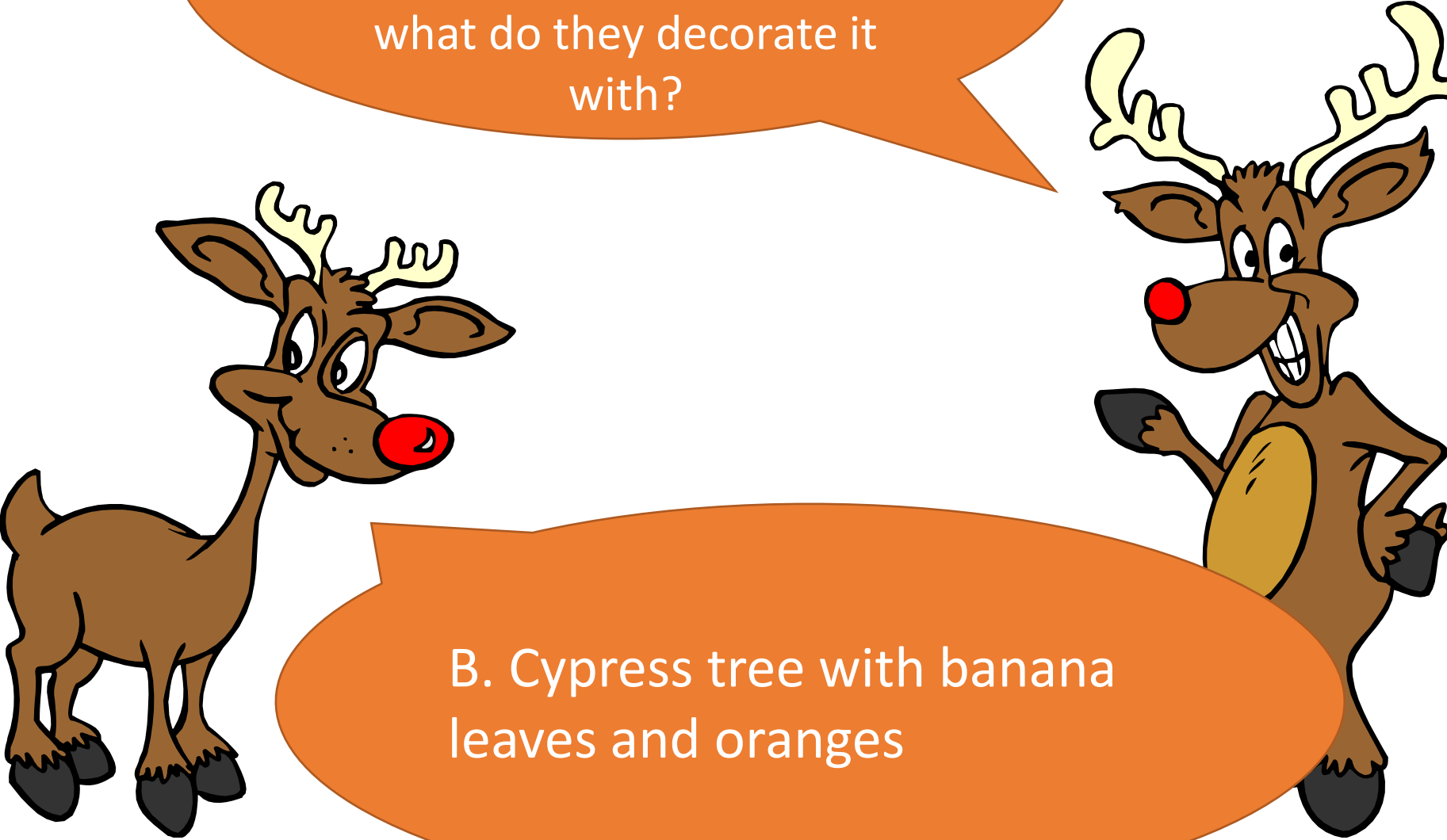


- A. Because of the fishmonger's daughters
- B. Because of the shepherd's daughters
- C. Because of the woodcutter's daughters

What is the
« Bûche de Noël »
shaped like ?



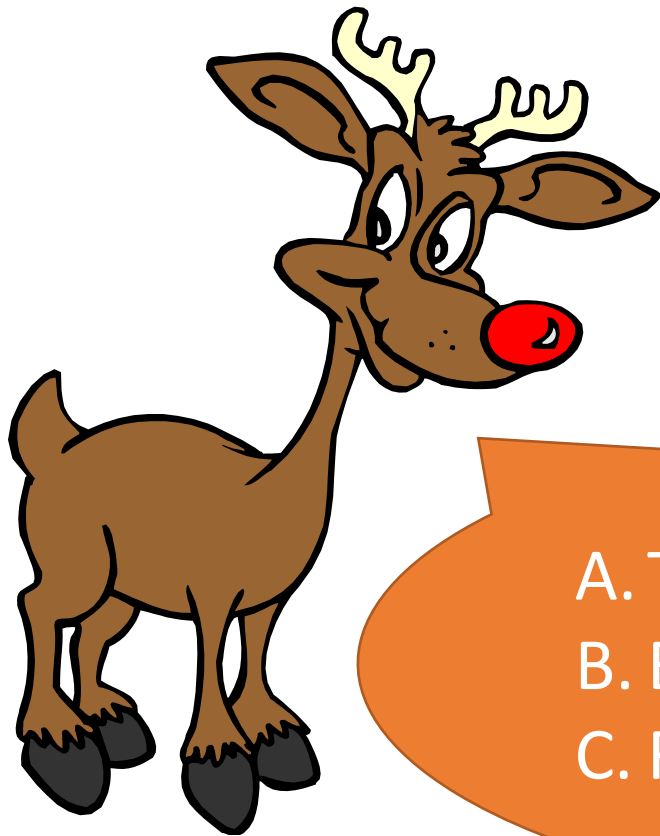
- A. The Eiffel Tower
- B. An elf
- C. A yule log



What type of tree do they
decorate in Cameroon and
what do they decorate it
with?

- A. Fir tree with lights and
baubles
- B. Cypress tree with banana
leaves and oranges
- C. Oak tree with candles

Name a Cameroonian Christmas food:



- A. Turkey
- B. Escargot
- C. Fufu



What is the currency of Cameroon?

- A. Dollar
- B. Franc
- C. Euro

And now...the
answers



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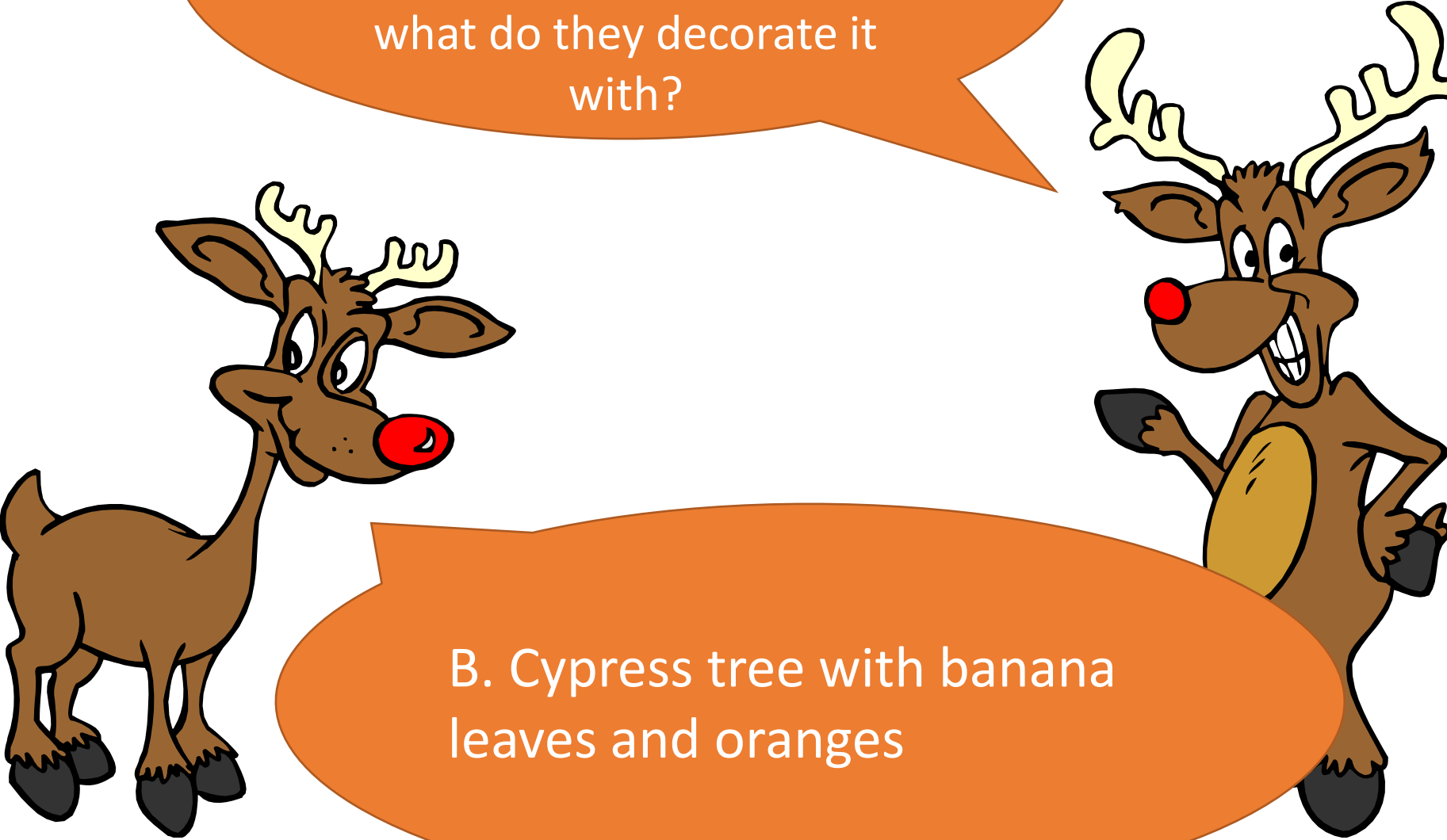
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Name a Cameroonian Christmas food:



C. Fufu



What is the currency of Cameroon?

B. Franc

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V-PD5iz7qdE&ab_channel=TheBestChristmasSongs

Choose a Christmas activity to complete!



Joyeux Noël



Joyeux Noël