

## **“Back to School Night” at Cheyenne Mountain Junior High September, 2000**

**Monday:** Taught the kids "cat, runs, and mouse." We did a little pms, of course. Homework was to go home and teach these 3 words and the gestures to your parents.

**Tuesday:** Checked on homework (had every kid tell me how the parents reacted.) VERRY INTERESTING!! Then I taught "comes, looks at, and screams." Homework is to teach these three words to your parents. And review yesterday's 3 words with the parents, of course!

**Wednesday:** Checked on homework. Reports were fascinating. Some parents were resistant, some claimed they didn't have time, some turned it into a joke. Most were good, but the kids saw how annoying it is when your "students" aren't cooperative! Homework for tonight is to review the six words again to make sure your parents know these words for Thursday night's "Back to School" night. Some parents are so nervous about this that they may not come! Kids just have to make sure that their parents feel confident, so the kids have to reassure the parents. Interesting responsibility for these kids.

**Thursday:** Taught the story to the kids and told them NOT to give away the punch line, but that they can give their parents the idea of the story. Told them to MAKE their parents volunteer to act !!

**Thursday night:** Parents came in and I ran through the words to be sure they knew them. Got volunteers to act (this was hard) and then we did the mini-story (IN FRENCH)

Two baby mice look at mama mouse. Mama mouse looks at the baby mice. Cat comes. Cat looks at the mice. The baby mice scream "Mama, Mama! A cat a cat!" Mama mouse looks at the cat. Mama mouse screams "BOW WOW!" Cat runs away.

And in English I ended by saying: "Just like you, this mama mouse is a model of good parenting. She has just taught her children the value of speaking a foreign language."

HAHAHAHAHA! Lots of laughs!!!

Then I retold (IN FRENCH, maintaining timing and spacing) asking ridiculous questions and the parents had to answer with "Oui" or "Non." With only a minute left I asked them if they had understood the French in tonight's mini-class. Then I said, "I hope that your child is enjoying learning French as much as I enjoy teaching them."

Holy tamales did I get good feedback from this!