

## Nicknames

Nicknames are a fun, though not essential, characteristic of TPR Storytelling. I waited until the first week of school was over before I handed out the list of “Sobriquets.” I let them take about a week to select their nicknames. I loved the selection process; I handed out a list of common French names as well as the “Sobriquets.” Over the week they tentatively tried out names and I got to know the kids in a way that might not have otherwise happened.

I taught junior high students. They revealed much by their selections. I gave them *carte blanche* (well, within the limits of appropriate) to make their names as they wished. One boy chose “Vieux Chien puant” – can’t you just tell that he was a sparkler?

Anyway, this was fun for me, so if it appeals to you, just photocopy the page for your kids!

Susan Gross

## Sobriquets

**Sympa** Nice  
**Fou (Folle)** Crazy  
**Mignon (-ne)** Cutie  
**Pamplemousse** Grapefruit  
**Renard (-e)** Fox/Vixen  
**Joli (-e)** Pretty  
**Beau (Belle)** Handsome/Beautiful  
**Tante** Aunt  
**Oncle** Uncle  
**Grandpère (-mère)**  
**Cousin (-e)** □  
**Prince (-esse)** □  
**Roi (Reine)** King / Queen  
**Poupée** Doll  
**Vieux (Vieille)** Old man / woman  
**Poisson** Fish  
**Oiseau** Bird  
**Chat, Chaton** Cat, Kitten  
**Chien, Chiot** Dog, Puppy  
**Lion** □  
**Tigre** □  
**Bizarre** Weird  
**Vache** Cow  
**Jeune** Young  
**Passionnant (-e)** Fascinating  
**Cheval** Horse  
**Taureau** Bull  
**Grenouille** Frog  
**Lapin** Rabbit  
**Papillon** Butterfly  
**Citrouille** Pumpkin  
**Bon (-ne)** Good  
**Gentil (-ille)** Kind  
**Ange** Angel  
**Chou** Cabbage  
**Minou** Kitty  
**Minet (-te)** Kitty, Sweetie-Pie  
**Chouchou (-te)** Pet, Darling  
**Malin (-igne)** Shrewd, Crafty  
**Femme Fatale** Fatal woman (hot!!)

**Chéri (-e)** Dear, Beloved  
**Chocolat**  
**Chouette** Cool  
**Copain (Copine)** Pal, buddy  
**Génial (-e)** Brilliant  
**Formidable** Fantastic  
**Sportif (-ve)**  
**Blond (-e)**  
**Drôle** Funny  
**Marrant (-e)** Funny  
**Petit (-e)** Small  
**Grand (-e)** Big  
**Bien-Aimé (-e)** Beloved  
**Juge** Judge  
**Chef** Chief  
**Patron** Boss  
**Gros (-se)** Fat  
**Brun (B) (-e)** Brown-haired  
**Roux (Rousse) (R) (-e)** Red-haired  
**Chinois (-e)** Chinese  
**Allemand (-e)** German  
**Japonais(-e)** Japanese  
**Anglais (-e)** English  
**Américain (-e)** American  
**Super**  
**Gourmand (-e)** Food lover, big eater  
**Doué (-e)** Gifted  
**Singe** Monkey  
**Nombril** Bellybutton  
**Escargot** Snail  
**Libellule** Dragonfly  
**Coccinelle** Ladybug  
**Cocorico** Cock-a-doodle-doo  
**Patapouf** Plop (like a sound effect)  
**Toc toc** Knock knock