

## Want to know more?

If you would like to know more about Jèrriais for your child, contact L'Office du Jèrriais at the address shown overleaf. Or for older children, you can check with your school to find out when lessons take place.

It's really important for children to see our language as a part of everyday life, so why not add Jèrriais labels to objects around your home - that's something we are happy to help you with.

L'Office du Jèrriais is also the place if you, a member of your family or a friend wants to learn our language through our range of adult evening classes — and don't forget we can also help with translations or with choosing a Jèrriais name for your house or business.



*Learning Jèrriais is fun - just ask any child who has been to our lessons in schools!*

Buy Jèrriais publications from La Société Jersiaise bookshop, Pier Road, St. Helier  
<http://www.societe-jersiaise.org/shop/vmchk.html>

<b>Jèrriais for Parents and Grandparents</b>	£4.00
<b>First 1000 Words in Jèrriais</b>	£5.95
<b>Phrase book</b>	£4.00
<b>House names</b>	£4.00
<b>CD-ROM Learn Jèrriais</b>	£19.99
<b>Nursery rhymes cassette and booklet</b>	£9.72
<b>Jèrriais-English dictionary</b>	£14.95
<b>English-Jèrriais dictionary</b>	£14.95

Find Jèrriais on **Jersey's Learning Platform** - download posters and other resources:  
<http://vle.jeron.je/Grouphomepage.asp?GroupId=415>

**Les Pages Jèrriaises:**  
<http://members.societe-jersiaise.org/geraint/jerriais.html>

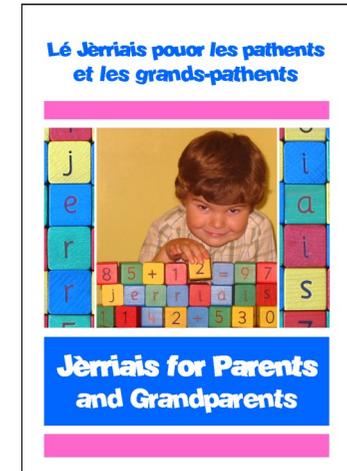
## L'Office du Jèrriais

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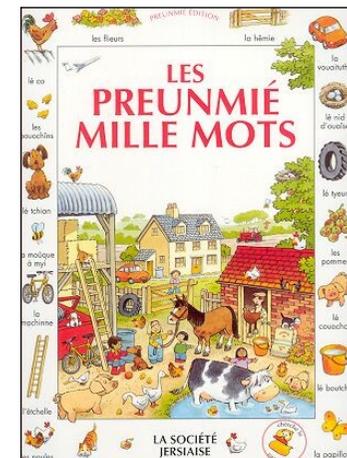
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# Jèrriais

## Jersey's own language



**Jèrriais for Parents and Grandparents**  
Words, phrases, activities and nursery rhymes to use - even if you're not yet a parent or grandparent!



**First 1000 Words in Jèrriais**  
Basic words with fascinating pictures - and can you find the little duck on every page?

## Jèrriais in the family

Dear Parent,

For centuries, children in Jersey have grown up hearing our own Island language, **lé Jèrriais**. Although only a few children in Jersey nowadays have Jèrriais-speaking parents, many more have grandparents, neighbours and family friends who speak Jersey's own language - and of course Jèrriais is all around in place names and the heritage of the island..



**Lé Jèrriais** is an endangered language; once upon a time, just about everyone in Jersey spoke it. However, the number of speakers has dwindled over the years, as English has taken over. Jèrriais was very important to people who lived here in the Occupation, as it meant they could say things they didn't want the Germans to understand. We need to remember that it is as important a part of our heritage as **lé Vièr Châaté** (Gorey Castle) or **les vaques Jèrriaises** (Jersey cows).

We want to keep it as a living language, and so it must be passed on to Jersey's children - they can ensure its future. Resources, advice and help are available for those wanting to give their children or grandchildren a taste of Jèrriais in play, at home, and round and about.



## Jèrriais in schools

### Where is Jèrriais taught?

Since 1999 the States of Jersey have supported Jèrriais classes in all primary schools.

Two years later, lessons began in secondary schools for children wanting to continue learning our language. Currently, lessons in primary schools start in Year 4; however, because of a shortage of qualified teachers, we can't provide lessons in every year at all primary schools, but it is part of the Citizenship programme. Secondary school students are able to study to the TGJ, the Jèrriais equivalent of GCSE.

Adults can also learn through Highlands College evening classes.

### Why use Jèrriais?

Jèrriais is our own language — even people who can't yet speak a single word should be proud of it. Jèrriais helps children understand the nature of language and makes them confident of their abilities. In some families, they will be able to talk with older people in Jèrriais, and they can have fun using it with their friends — you can even text in Jèrriais! There are radio programmes and articles in the JEP, as well as the quarterly Jèrriais magazine.



## Facts about Jèrriais



*J'avons du ji en Jèrriais!  
We have fun in Jèrriais!*

- Throughout Europe it is normal to teach and learn through lesser-used languages.
- Learning to speak Jèrriais helps children's intellectual development, mental agility and alertness. It makes it easier for them to learn other languages when they are older.
- Children who learn Jèrriais understand their cultural identity as Jersey citizens and will respect people who speak different languages.
- Children with a knowledge of Jèrriais can enjoy a rich tradition of prose, poetry and music.
- Children are able to distinguish between languages very easily and they love to play with words - having two words for everything is of great interest to them!
- More than half the world's population speaks more than one language!