



## **Escargot**

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Bonjour! Escargot is a beautiful French snail who wants only two things: 1. To be your favorite animal. 2. To get to the delicious salad at the end of the book. But when he gets to the salad, he discovers that there's a carrot in it. And Escargot hates carrots. But when he finally tries one (with a little help from you!) He discovers that it's not so bad after all.

AR Level: 2.8

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Book Trailer, etc.: <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?aid=597>  
Other websites/links: <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=54777>  
<http://www.curiouscitydpw.com/2017/04/12/escargot-kit/>

**Food:** **Salad with croutons and a light vinaigrette**  
**Carrots**  
**Gummy Carrots - blaircandy.com**  
**Chocolate Carrots Candy - orientaltrading.com**  
**Vinaigrette salad dressing recipe**  
1 part vinegar (use a mild one like rice wine or cider NOT white vinegar)  
2 or 3 parts oil  
A little salt and sugar to taste

### **Nonfiction Companion Titles:**

Waxman, Laura Hamilton. *Slimy Snails*.

Huggins-Cooper, Lynn. *Slimy Sliders*

Gioffre, Rosalba. *The Young Chef's French Cookbook*

Wagner, Lisa. *Cool French Cooking: Fun & Tasty Recipes for Kids*

*First French Dictionary* (Dorling Kindersley Publishing)

**Fiction Companion Title:**

Lionni, Leo. *The Biggest House in the World*.

Child, Lauren. *I Will Never Not Ever Eat a Tomato*.

**Introduction:** *Bonjour!* This book is *tres magnifique!* Wear a beret and neck scarf when introducing *Escargot* (use a snail puppet and have it wear a beret and neck scarf, too). Have the students use the Kagan structure of turn-and-talk to share their favorite animal and why it is their favorite. This is a book about an animal that really wants you to choose it as your favorite animal. Generate a list of students' favorite animals. Introduce and discuss an anchor chart with French phrases that are found in the book such as *Bonjour!*, *Magnifique!*, *Au Contraire!*, *Bon Appetit!*, and *C'est La Vie*.

**Story Time Activities:**

Have the students draw/illustrate their own version of *Escargot* and then swipe a trail of glitter glue in his wake.

Make shimmery slime  
<https://kindercraze.com/mess-free-glitter-slime-recipe-safe-for-kids/>

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Share the pdf of *Escargot's Magnifique Facts About Snails* found in the storytime kit via <http://www.curiouscitydpw.com/2017/04/12/escargot-kit/>

Snail arts & crafts: <https://iheartcraftythings.com/12-colorful-snail-crafts-for-kids.html>

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What is a food that you absolutely will NOT eat and why don't you like it? (open-ended)
2. Are snails beautiful? (have students give a thumbs-up or thumbs down depending on their opinion). Once you get to page 5, have the students discuss which part of the snail is the most beautiful (after Escargot asks for the reader's opinion).
3. Ask the students to make a face of someone who is FIERCE (page 13). Then have everyone ROAR to scare away the carrots!
4. Why did Escargot escape in to his shell? (page 14 - he got scared when everyone roared)
5. Page 16 - Have students answer Escargot, (yes or no), when he asks "Am I your favorite animal yet?". Ask the students, again, at the end of the story.