



An ESL program for children ages 9-15, focusing on the cultures of countries such as England, Scotland, Ireland, the United States, Australia...

3 summer "villages": Tours (37-Indre-et-Loire), Le Chambon-sur-Lignon (43-Haute Loire), Thèbe (65-Hautes-Pyrénées).

Dear Staff Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in Little Big Land, an English as a Second Language (ESL) program for French children in France. Please find enclosed the necessary application forms.

Before you fill out the forms, you should know what kind of experience you are applying for. LBL looks in many ways like a summer camp and is registered with the French authorities, the *Ministère de la Cohésion Sociale* (formerly *Jeunesse et Sports*), as such: a *séjour de vacances*. As would be the case at any summer camp, part of a staff member's job is to insure that our "villagers"—the children who participate in the program—have a safe and enjoyable experience, develop their abilities to be creative and confident people, learn to accept responsibilities, and get along with others in a group setting.

But parents and children choose LBL because it is a *language village*, an immersion program where participants use English—hear it and speak it—throughout the day, not in a school setting, but in a variety of natural, everyday activities. English is not offered as a separate, optional activity that children can choose to participate in, like archery or arts and crafts might be at another camp, *it is the official language of the village*. **When you apply for a staff position, you make a commitment to speak English all the time with the participants *and* with other staff members.** The program is a real language immersion, for the villagers and for staff members too!

So an LBL staff member must (a) be able to work effectively with groups of children in a summer camp environment, being sensitive to their physical and emotional well-being and (b) be able to see every activity of the day as an opportunity for using English.

How do you do that? During each session, 1-3 days will be devoted to a "visit" of 5 different English-speaking countries. The daily schedule includes "Travel Time," an introduction to the day for the whole village and two "Studio time" sessions, where the children are divided into small groups to put their English to use in a project : writing a song, preparing a skit or other presentation, inventing a game, making a village newspaper, etc. Counselors are responsible for creating, planning and leading these activities.

The day also includes singing, celebrations, games, sports, crafts--all based on the traditions of English-speaking countries and all in English. Staff members also interact with villagers in English during meals, time in residences and free time. In this kind of immersion environment, children absorb new vocabulary and structures in English much as they learned their native language, by hearing it and speaking it all day, in many different contexts.

Please read the application materials carefully. If the forms don't allow you enough space to respond adequately to the questions, you may attach additional pages. Feel free to ask questions. Thank you again for your interest in our program.

Sincerely,

Joel Preus, Director



P.S. Little Big Land also organizes one-week "classes d'immersion" for schools based on the same principle of an immersion experience in English. These sessions take place at different sites across France. If you are interested in these programs, you may indicate on the application form the dates at which you would be available. So far, one session of this kind is scheduled for the spring of 2012.

Keep this document for reference

LITTLE BIG LAND - DAILY SCHEDULE

08.00	Wake up	
08.30-09.15	BREAKFAST	
09.15-09.40	Cleanup	Room cleanup
09.40-10.00	Travel Time	Villagers from one country group help counselors present the country, characters, and themes of the day
10.00-11.00	Studio Time 1	Counselor-led small group projects: writing a song, preparing a skit, inventing a game, writing a village newspaper, etc...
11.00-12.00	Game time	Big game (capture the flag, etc.) for the whole village
12.00-13.00	LUNCH TIME	
13.00-14.00	Quiet time	Return to rooms for rest, letter-writing, "logbook", quiet games
14.00-16.00	Activities	Sign up for an activity proposed by counselors: arts and crafts, sports, choreography, hike...
16.00-16.45	Free time	Have a snack, go to the bank, go to the store...
16.45-17.45	Studio Time 2	2 nd session of small group projects
17.45-18.30	Showers	
18.30-19.00	Soap Opera	Invented and presented by counselors: 1 episode a day
19.00-20.00	SUPPERTIME	
20.00-20.15	Free Time	
20.15-21.30	Evening program	Party, dance, casino night, celebration (Halloween...)
21.30	Home sweet home	Return to rooms to talk about the day with counselors
22:00	Bedtime	Lights out!



The schedule can be modified by the staff to take into account special activities, interests of the group, weather, etc.



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2012 SESSIONS	DATES	LOCATIONS
Staff orientation	July 2 (evening)-July 5, 2012	Tours (37), Le Chambon-sur-Lignon (43), Thèbe (65) <i>separate staff orientation at each village</i>
Session 1	July 6-19, 2012	Tours, Le Chambon, Thèbe
Session 2	July 21-August 3, 2012	Tours, Le Chambon, Thèbe
Session 3	August 5-18, 2012	Tours and Thèbe only
Session 4	August 20-26, 2012	Tours only (shorter "back to school" session)

"CLASSE D'IMMERSION" (5-day session for school group): May 20-26, 2012

STAFF QUALIFICATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

It is of prime importance that all candidates enjoy working with young people in the close proximity of the "village" setting. French staff must be fluent in English and committed to speaking the language at all times, with the participants and with other staff members. They must have first-hand knowledge of life in at least one English-speaking country. It is helpful for native English-speaking staff to have a working knowledge of French. They should also have experience working with young people, preferably in a summer camp situation.

I. Village Director

A. Qualifications

1. French BAFD certificate or other degree recognized by the *Ministère de la Cohésion Sociale*.
2. Experience as director or assistant director of a French summer camp or day camp.
3. Sufficient fluency in English to use the language in all aspects of daily village life, in all interaction with villagers *and also with other staff members*.
4. Work experience with children ages 9-15.
5. Demonstrated skills in personnel management and program organization.
6. Skill in one or more cultural activity areas (drama, music, arts and crafts, sports...)
7. First aid training.

B. General Responsibilities

1. Ensure the physical well-being of the participants, seeing that conditions of hygiene, safety, and supervision conform to the French regulations on summer camps, as defined by the *Ministère de la Cohésions Sociale*.
2. Assist the program director with all official declarations.
3. In cooperation with the *Resource Counselor*, implement the educational curriculum of the village.
4. Be responsible for the general supervision of the villagers at all times.
5. Provide leadership and assistance for all villagers and staff, including arranging any medical care that might be necessary.

B. Specific Responsibilities

1. With the *Resource Counselor*, define materials needed for activities.
2. Work with the program director on recruiting and screening of staff.
3. With the *Resource Counselor*, plan and lead on-site orientation of village staff.
4. With the aid of the program director, serve as liaison between Little Big Land and the people or organization responsible for the site (caretaker, cook, cleaning staff, etc.).
5. Assist the program director with arrangements for arrival and departure of groups.
6. Organize room assignment of villagers and staff.
7. Assume responsibility for purchasing of any supplies necessary during the sessions.
8. With the *Resource Counselor*, organize daily staff meetings.
9. Schedule days off for staff.
10. Write program and staff evaluations.



II. Resource counselor (native English-speaker and/or former LBL counselor)

A. Qualifications

1. Minimum of bachelor's degree (French *licence*) or equivalent.
2. Working knowledge of French language.
3. Experience in ESL or other foreign language teaching.
4. Demonstrated skills in personnel management and program organization.
5. Skill or talent in cultural activity areas.
6. Work experience with children ages 9-15.
7. Summer camp or immersion language camp leadership experience.

B. General Responsibilities

1. Serve as language facilitator, planner, program leader, activity leader and counselor. In the temporary absence of the director, assume responsibility for villagers and staff.
2. Implement the educational curriculum of the village.
3. Assist in the general supervision of the villagers at all times.
4. Provide leadership and assistance for all villagers and other staff.
5. Assist the director in daily tasks.

C. Specific Responsibilities

1. Assist director in on-site orientation of village staff.
2. Supervise the placement of villagers in language level groups.
3. Assist the director with daily staff meetings.
4. Aid and supervise counselors in planning activities, in particular the small group "Studio Time" sessions.
5. Lead large-group language/activity sessions ("Travel Time") daily.
6. Lead small-group language/activity sessions as necessary.
7. Assist in program and staff evaluations.
8. Assume responsibility for supervision of villagers as defined by the director.

III. Counselors

A. Qualifications

1. College student or graduate.
2. Experience in living abroad.
3. Fluency in English (and command of basic French preferred for native English speakers).
4. Skill or talent in one or more related activity area:
• *Arts & Crafts* • *Drama* • *Physical Education/Sports* • *Dance* • *Music*
5. Work experience with children ages 9-15.
6. Summer camp or immersion language village experience.

B. Responsibilities

1. Be aware that the counselors at each village are responsible to the *Village Director*. The *Resource Counselor* will assist them with planning and leading language activities.
2. Abide by all staff policies as defined by the *Village Director* and the LBL program director in France.
3. Bring reading material, music, posters or other materials that will add to LBL's English-speaking atmosphere.
4. Attend orientation prior to the first session (unless other arrangement made with LBL office).
5. Assist in setting up the village.
6. Greet parents, meet and orient the villagers on opening day.
7. Speak English with villagers and with other staff members at all times.



8. Be sensitive to the health and welfare of the villagers, set standards of grooming and behavior.
9. Plan, assist with, and lead large and small group language/cultural activities in English.
10. Plan, assist with, and lead recreational activities in English.
11. Participate in all village programs as specified by the *Village Director* or *Resource Counselor*.
12. Assume responsibility for in-residence counseling and leadership and general supervision of villagers. (All counselors will live in a residential area with the villagers and will have particular responsibility for the well-being of the villagers in their area. The staff to villager ratio is about 1:6).
13. Assist in the closing program. Help the villagers prepare their personal belongings for departure.
14. Talk to parents and program visitors.
15. Help plan and prepare for the next session.
16. Remain one day after your final session for cleanup, inventory and evaluation of the program.
17. Assume other duties as assigned by the director.

<u>Orientation:</u>	All summer staff members are expected to attend an orientation session. (Special arrangements may be made for staff members not working the 1st session.)
<u>Transportation:</u>	Staff will be reimbursed for the cost of train fare between their home in France (or place of arrival in France) and the Little Big Land Village to which they are assigned: round trip fare for staff working 2 or more sessions, one-way for staff members working one session. For the "classes d'immersion," all travel costs within France are reimbursed.
<u>Room and board:</u>	Little Big Land will pay for the cost of counselors' room and board during the sessions.
<u>Time Off:</u>	Staff members will have one day off per week during sessions (paid) and 1 to 2 days off (unpaid) between sessions. Staff members may remain on site between sessions, but meals will not necessarily be provided during this time.
<u>Sessions:</u>	Candidates may apply for 1, 2, or 3 or more sessions.

Compensation for staff positions (European union citizens)* :

<u>Qualification</u>	<u>Salaire brut (congés payés inclus)</u>
Director/Resource counselor.....	Based on qualifications and experience
Village nurse ("assistante sanitaire")	35 €/day
Animateur diplômé BAFA.....	34 €/day (+1 €/year of LBL experience for former staff)
En cours de formation BAFA.....	29 €/day
1 ^{er} stage pratique.....	24 €/day

*Compensation for non-European staff members will be specified, but should be comparable. Travel between home country and France is not reimbursed.

- Check to make sure that your application is complete:
 - STAFF APPLICATION (2 pages)
 - STAFF HEALTH FORM (1 page)
 - 2 RECENT PHOTOS
- Send your application to: **Joel Preus, Director - Little Big Land, 4 place de la Victoire, 37000 Tours (France)**
- Interviews will be conducted in person or by phone when completed dossier and references have been received.

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