

Outline of the Montessori Lower Elementary Curriculum

	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concept & process in operations of + and - • skip counting: sequence of numbers; bridging the decades • introduction to fractions • coin values/recognition • word problems • simple graphing/sampling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concept & process in operations of- and x • skip counting: powers of numbers; memorization • +/- of like fractions • addition of coins; making change from notes • more word problems • Venn diagrams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concept & process in operations of x and + • multiples and factors • pre-algebra: parentheses etc. • equivalence of unlike fractions; + of unlike fractions • introduction to decimals; +/- of decimals to millionth place • mixed word problems
Geometry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • basic concepts: point, line, surface and solid • names of geometric solids • study of circles • study of lines: parts of lines; positions of one straight line; relations of two straight lines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • study of angles: whole, straight, right, acute, obtuse; convex/reflex angles; angles formed by a transversal • names of plane figures, including triangles & polygons • using constructive triangles to create various quadrilaterals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • detailed study of triangles • study of quadrilaterals (parallelogram, trapezoid, rhombus, rectangle, square) • study of polygons (pentagon through decagon) • similarity, congruence, and equivalence
Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • word study: classifying, compound words, alpha order, • mechanics: periods and capitals • phonics: short and long vowels, consonant digraphs • spelling rules: silent e • writing process • poetry and dramatic recitals • print handwriting • the history of writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • word study: syllabication, suffixes, prefixes, antonyms • mechanics: periods, quotations marks, commas • phonics: blends, vowel digraphs; spelling tests begin • spelling rules: doubling final consonants, "drop the e" • writing process • poetry and dramatic recitals • cursive handwriting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • word study: synonyms, homophones, homonyms, homographs, guide words • mechanics: apostrophes for contraction and possession • phonics: review; sp. tests • spelling rules: plural endings • writing process • poetry and dramatic recitals • cursive handwriting
Grammar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the function of the "noun family": article, adjective, noun • the function of the verb • introduction to sentence structure: "asking" vs "telling" sentences; • concept of a sentence as a complete thought 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • function of prepositions • function of adverbs • function of conjunctions • function of pronouns • function of interjections • the four types of sentences: declarative, imperative, interrogative, exclamatory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • study of style: analyzing simple texts for frequency of parts of speech • sentence analysis: simple sentences with predicate, subject and object; indirect object; adverbial extensions
Biology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • parts of five classes of vertebrates: fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals • parts of "plants": seaweed, moss, ferns, pine trees, flowering plants, fungi • first knowledge of animals and plants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • body functions of animals / "plants": (movement, anchorage, protection, support, nutrition, circulation, reproduction, dispersal) • beginning research into animals/"plants" of choice • parts of a flower/leaf/ root 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • advanced botany nomenclature (e.g. types of leaf margins, types of fruits, etc.) • taxonomy: classification of animals/plants according to a 5 kingdom model • research and guided report writing with Q&A game
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concepts of time: noticing changes in seasons • graphing child's family ages • passage of years: making a personal timeline of child's life • history of names of days of the week and months of year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • telling time on analog clocks • study of fundamental human needs of various cultures • parts of a year (semester, quadrimester, trimester, bimester, month) • the Gregorian calendar and BC/AD or CE/BCE timeline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the "long black line" (an impressionistic overview of earth history) • the "Clock of the Eras" • the Time Line of Life: detailed research into the Paleozoic, Mesozoic, Cenozoic and Neozoic Eras
Geography & Physical Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • history of maps: puzzle mapping; compass directions • land & water forms: physical geography 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pin maps: political boundaries of continents • parts of a flag; study of flags • beginning basic research on countries of choice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • economic geography • advanced land & water forms • more detailed research on countries of choice
3 yr cycle:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work of water (water cycle, erosion, etc.) • sound • parts of a river 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sun and earth • nature of the elements • light • the "Creation Story" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • composition of the earth • nature of the elements, cont'd • parts/formation of mountains • magnetism