

Montessori School of Lemont Curriculum Overview for Grades 1-8

Our Elementary Program begins with and completes the Second Plane of Development. This plane begins with concrete materials and ends with the understanding of the academic work in the abstract. The Core Curriculum is an extension of the Primary curriculum and includes Music, Language, Math, Geometry, Science and the Cultural Subjects. As in the Primary level, many Art and Music activities are integral to other areas, specifically Cultural Subjects. Daily outdoor activity time emphasizes team building and sportsmanship. While the Elementary Student no longer requires the Practical Life Curriculum to develop his/her concentration, coordination, independence and responsibility that they gained during the Primary years, Practical Life remains one of the most important areas of the Elementary curriculum. In the Second Plane these patterns of learning, behavior, attitudes and social interaction blossom under the guidance of the Elementary Staff. The 6-14 year old student is involved in the Creation of Self through developing use of reason, intelligence and imagination to understand 'why', 'how' and 'when'. He has a physical relationship to the classroom environment for which he shares responsibility with his classmates to maintain an aesthetically pleasing work environment. The collaboration of the students on this *practical* challenge involves the use of intelligence and imagination in socially acceptable ways. As the student gains expertise in relationship to his peer group, he is gradually developing a sense of diplomacy, social integration and the ability to assume various leadership roles. By the time the Montessori Student has successfully met the challenges of the Second Plane of Development, our staff delights in knowing that he has become a persona with the self-confidence and knowledge that he is capable of succeeding by his own efforts and abilities. Practical Life in action.

Practical Life

Grace & Courtesy

- Letter Writing
- Dining and Telephone Etiquette
- Community Service
- [Peace Education](#)

Elementary (Basic) Movements

- Keyboarding
- [Standardized Testing](#)
- Computers
- Reinforcement of studies
- Research and literacy
- Business applications

Care of Self

- Preparing and Serving Food

Care of Environment

- Scrubbing, Dishes, Sweeping, Polishing wood, glass & silver
- Plant & Animal Care
- Care of Outdoor Environment
- Care of Home Environment

Sensorial

Visual

- Identifying Artists and Periods in Art History
- Field Trips to Art Museums and Theaters

Auditory

- [Music Appreciation](#):
- Identifying Composers
- Music History
- Music Class: Chorus and Theory
- Private Lessons: Piano and Voice
- Foreign Language: Classes After School, Cultural Visitor
- Field Trips to the Symphony

Tactile

- Multi-media art activities
- Geometric materials

Gustatory and Olfactory

- Cooking and Baking

Weights, Measures and Temperature

- Science Experiments

Mathematics

Math Concepts

Mastery of the four Operations

- Timings

Whole Numbers, Fractions, Decimals and Percents

Geometry

Algebra

Trigonometry (available for advanced students)

Language Arts

Literature Groups

- Jr. Great Books

Creative and Expository Writing

Grammar and Vocabulary

- Dictionary Research
- Penmanship
- Sentence and Paragraph Building

Spelling

Public Speaking

- Oral Research Presentations

Cultural Subjects

Geography

- Development of the Universe
- Development of Life
- Country and Flag Identification
- Geology

History

- Of Human Civilization
- Their People and Customs
- World: Ancient, Medieval and Modern
- American
- Independent Research
- Visitors from other countries
- Celebrations in different cultures
- Cooking and art from around the world

Scientific Classification and Experiments

- Botany
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Physiology
- Zoology

Field Trips to the Museums reinforce the Cultural Subjects