

Montessori School of Lemont Curriculum Overview for 3-6 Year Olds

The 3-6 year old or Primary child is in the First Plane of Development outlined by Maria Montessori. The child at this level has a sensorial relationship to his environment; he learns by touching and manipulating real objects. All Primary activities are concrete materials that the child is encouraged to explore following an initial presentation by a certified Montessori Directress. Academic achievement is often the outcome of this well rounded curriculum, however Montessori's goal was not merely [academic success](#) rather she sought to nurture the spirit and aid in the development of the child as a whole or *Education for Life*. There are six basic areas of the Montessori Primary Curriculum in addition to Art and Music activities which are included in the Sensorial, Language and Geography Areas:

Practical Life activities help the child to develop concentration, coordination, independence and the routine of completing a work cycle using activities of daily life.

Sensorial activities train the child to use all senses to explore their environment.

Math provides a foundation for problem solving and critical thinking skills through the use of concrete materials.

Language brings together the reading and writing skills of the child to develop logical thinking.

Science and **Geography** offer the child a context in which to understand his existence.

Practical Life

Grace & Courtesy

How to: Introduce, Interrupt, Offer Food, Use Inside Voice, Observe Others' Work, Offer Help, [Show Respect for Others](#) and [Nature](#)

Elementary (Basic) Movements

Fine Motor Skills:
- Transferring with: eye droppers, spoon, tweezers, chopsticks
- Using clothes pins
- Pouring liquids
- Sorting objects

Care of Self

- Clothing: zipping, buttoning, tying, buckling, changing shoes and coat
- Hand washing
- Having snack
- Preparing food

Care of Environment

- Scrubbing, Dishes, Sweeping, Polishing wood, glass & silver
- Plant & Animal Care

Sensorial

Sight

- Identify & Grade Colors and Shapes

Sound

- [Music](#) with Bells: Match Pitch with voice and bells; Grade; Name notes; Compose
- Rhythm and Movement Activities at Line Time
- Foreign Languages: German Class, Classmates/Visitors

Touch

- Texture, Grading Volume, Width, Length, Height

Smell & Taste Jars

- Sweet, Salty, Bitter, Sour
- Cooking and Baking

Weight

- Baric Tablets

Temperature

- Thermic Tablets and Jars

Mathematics

Numeration with

concrete materials:
- Quantity v. Numeral
- Place value: units, ten, hundreds, thousands
- Number building

Linear Counting with

concrete materials:
- Sequence of numbers: teens, tens, hundreds and thousands
- Squaring and cubing numbers 1-10

Operations with

concrete materials: (up to four places, static and dynamic)
- Addition
- Multiplication
- Subtraction
- Division

Language

Pre-Writing/Writing

- Push pinning
- Metal Insets
- 1 & 2 Stroke Cutting
- Drawing with Crayons, Pencils, Markers
- Painting, Gluing
- Penmanship
- Creative Writing

Pre-Reading/Reading

- Sequencing, Patterns, Matching
- Phonics
- Sandpaper Letters
- Sight words
- Word Building
- Parts of Speech
- Basal Readers

Science

Physical

- Properties of matter (Solid, Liquid, Gas) explored through experiments

Botany

- Nomenclature
- Classification
- Dissection
- Gardening

Zoology

- Nomenclature
- Classification
- Observation of life cycle of classroom pets and outdoor animals

Geography

Physical

- Solar System
- Landforms

Political

- Maps of Continents and Countries of each Continent
- Flags of Countries

Cultural

- Continent Baskets with objects from each continent
- Visitors or classmates from other countries
- Celebrations of holidays from different cultures
- Cooking, art and music from around the world