

COMPARISON OF PUBLIC SCHOOL ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM AND MONTESSORI ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM

Please note that the Montessori curriculum is not divided into grades but rather into 3 year groupings such as 3-6, 6-9 or 9-12 yrs. The teachers evaluate the children through observation and working one-on-one with the child. Individual and small group lessons allow the teacher to follow the pace of each child, ensuring that each child is kept challenged and engaged with his or her work and exploration.

MATHEMATICS		
	Public Schools	Montessori
Kindergarten	Counts and writes to thirty	4-6 years old <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consolidates experience on decimal system and the concept of the four operations: addition, subtraction and division • works with 4-digit numbers • sensorial explorations of the different plane figures and solids
1st grade	addition	6 years old <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continues to work on addition and subtraction • exploration of the concept of similarity, congruence and equality • naming of fractions
2nd grade	subtraction	6-7 years old <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiplication and division • Early geometry: identifies kinds of lines, nomenclatures of the plane figures and other polygons, exploration of their parts, angles
3rd grade	Multiplication	7-8 years old <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploration of more difficult multiplication combinations and divisions • Mathematical problems involving the four operations • Fractions - equivalent fractions, lowest term • Concept of measurement • Perimeter • Concept of Money

Mathematics cont'd.

	Public School	Montessori
4th grade	Division	8- 9 years old <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More work on multiplication and division • Powers of the numbers: squares and cube roots of the numbers • Concrete exploration of binomials • Perimeter, area: exposure to the derivation of the formulae • Percent • Decimal numbers
5th grade	Fractions	10 years old <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cube of a number and cube root. • Exploration of other bases of: (ie. Binary) • Sensorial explorations of volume
6th grade	Decimals	10 - 11 years old <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Derivation of the formulae for volume and computes volumes - More algebra work: binomials and trinomials

SOCIAL SCIENCE

	Public School	Montessori Geography	Montessori History
1st grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myself • My needs • The World Around Me 	4- 8 years old <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learns about continents: countries, capitals and flags • Studies land and water forms 	6- 9 years old <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learns that time is represented on a time line • Reads and tells time
2nd grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People as members of a group • Roles and responsibilities • Different environments around the world • How we obtain the things we need 	6-9 years old <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographical terms such as rotation, revolution • Does experiments which show the natural phenomena of the earth • Our solar system • Study of the nation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studies the history of the formation of the universe and the earth • Understands the length of Man's existence in comparison to the animals' time on Earth • Explores the history of one's country
3rd grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultures of the different communities • Our city: present and history 	7- 11 years old <p>Dynamic Geography</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climatology • Our solar system • Solar energy and the Earth • Consequences of the Earth's movement • The hydrosphere and its phenomena • The work of the air and wind • Mountains and how they are formed <p>Study of other countries: geography, history and other aspects as nations</p>	7- 11 years old <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deeper exploration of the formation of the Earth and the appearance of the different forms of life on Earth • The coming of the human beings • Understands the fundamental needs of Man and how man satisfies these needs
4th grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History and geography of California • Comparative cultures: Japan, Mexico etc. • Modern California 		

Social Sciences cont'd.

	Public School	Montessori Geography	Montessori History
5 th grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of United States and its geography • People and changing events in the US 	<p>9 – 12 years old</p> <p>Concept of Interdependence of the different elements: life, water, soil, fire and air</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The human’s role in preserving his natural home 	<p>9 -12 years old</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Man’s challenges and activities in preserving its species • Explores how humans satisfy their needs across time and culture
6 th grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World geography and history of the West • European Civilizations • Societies of the modern world • Preserving the world’s resources • Shaping a peaceful future 	<p>Economic Geography</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World trade • Trade inside a country • Trade inside a state • Trade inside the city • Exchange of Services (“The Baker” – what does he need?) • Understands “taxation” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Supra- nature” –Man’s creative imagination at work: explores man’s inventions from earliest time to present to make life a lot better

Age	Public School	Montessori
	Science	Biology
1st grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living things are interdependent. • Energy must be applied to do work. • Sun is the source for energy for life on earth 	<p>5-7 years old (Ages and not grades)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studies external body parts of the animals of the five phyla of the vertebrates, plants and flowers • Learns the functions of animals and plants.
2nd grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living vs. non-living things. • There are many kinds of objects in the universe. • The sun's energy affects life on earth 	<p>6-10 years old</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further learns the function of each part of the animals, plants, flowers, seed and fruit. • Studies the varieties of flowers, fruits, stems, roots and fruits. • Understands the needs of the plants and animals to survive. • Explores how both animals and plants satisfy their need. • Classifies animals according to vertebrates and invertebrates • Learns the different system of the human body
3rd grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living things are interdependent. • The sun is a source of energy for life. • The motions of objects in space are predictable. 	<p>7-11 years old</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continues to explore the different groups and subgroups in the animal kingdom: invertebrates and vertebrates • Conducts research about particular animals and plants: <p style="margin-left: 40px;"> Characteristics Habitat Diet/ or the Needs of the Plants Number of species Reproduction Defense </p>

Science (Cont'd.)

<p>4th Grade</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living vs. non-living things. • Temperature and pressure determine the form of matter. • Sun's energy affects the climate of the earth 	<p>8-12 years old</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiments for the study of the preservation of the individual and the study of human beings. • 8-12 Human anatomy: function of each human body system • How the different organs and systems interact to make the body function.
<p>5th Grade</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living things are interdependent. • There are many kinds of objects in the universe. • The motions of objects in space are predictable 	<p>8-12 years old</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human anatomy • How the different organs and systems interact to make the body Function • Explores the function of the different body function
<p>6th Grade</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living vs. non-living things. • The sun is a source of energy for life. • Sun's energy affects the climate on earth. 	<p>9-12 years old</p> <p>Ecology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The study of the interrelatedness of plants and animals and plants with non-living things. • Ecosystems • Nitrogen cycle • Photosynthesis • Water cycle • Oxygen , carbon dioxide cycle • Air cycle (circulation) • Top soil formation

LANGUAGE

Grade	Public	Montessori
Kindergarten	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask and answer questions about key details, retell stories • Recognize and produce rhyming words • Blend 2 and phoneme words • Short and long vowel sounds • Print upper/lower-case letters • Understands punctuation marks (commas, question mark, period etc.) 	<p>4-6 years of age</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enriches one's own vocabulary through the study of the parts of different animals and plants • Learns the individual sound and form of the letters in cursive • Composes/spells words using the movable alphabet, from phonetic to phonogram word • Reads words from CVC (Consonant-Vowel-Consonant syllable pattern) to longer phonetic words, phonograms and puzzle (sight) words • Participates in story telling activities: identifies the elements of the story • Explores the function of the words (parts of speech) • Compose short stories either with the movable alphabet or with paper and pencil • Understands rhyming words
1st grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify sensory language, narrator and emotive language • Write and share opinion pieces, autobiography, narrative • Read more: blending and spelling patterns 	<p>6-9 years old</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write journal, narrative story and science reports (guided by the use of the movable alphabet whenever necessary) • Spells blends, phonograms with the movable alphabet • Understands the function of homonyms, homophones, synonyms, compound words, suffixes, prefixes etc. • Explores the etymology and function of the individual parts of speech in sentences. • Analyze the use of words in phrases or sentences grammatically or syntax. • Expose to reading different types of literature: fiction, non-fiction, fables, folktale, poems etc. • Write book report
2nd grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continues improvement in reading and writing. • Spelling from State textbooks. 	
3rd grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begins to read and write the cursive alphabet. • Writes paragraphs. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reads and writes poetry. Uses commas • in series, dates and proper places for business and personal letters • narrations, descriptions, poetry and research is read and written 	
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<p>4th grade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begins to consolidate nouns, verbs and adjectives • Business and friendly letter form • the difference between indicative, interrogative and imperative sentences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidates complete sentences, prefixes, suffixes, synonyms, antonyms, homonyms and uses transition words. 	<p>9-12 years old</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further study the different types of nouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs etc. • Classify the different of words according to their functions and types: Ex. Noun Classification: number (collective, mass nouns...), gender, material and abstract nouns. • Grammatical Analysis • Sentence Analysis: Parts of a sentence: subject- predicate etc. of simple sentences to compound sentences. • Continue to write narrative reports, biography, autobiography and science reports
<p>5th grade</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidates the remaining parts of speech, compounded and simple subjects and predicates. 	
<p>6th grade</p>		

“We discovered that education is not something which the teacher does, but that it is a natural process which develops spontaneously in the human being.”

· Maria Montessori