

Waterford Montessori Academy

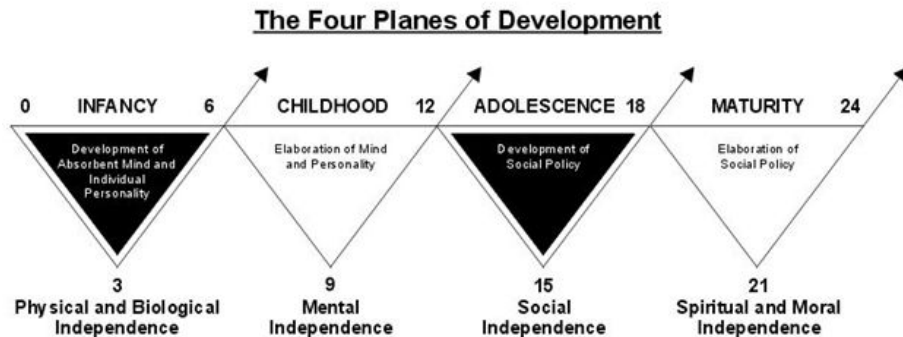
3rd Grade Curriculum Guide

These courses in this guide may be offered in school, virtually or blended.

The Second Plane: Ages 6–12 (Childhood) “Conscious Imagination”

According to Maria Montessori, in the second plane of development, children begin to display the ability to reason and use abstract thinking. This period is characterized by a craving for mental or intellectual independence. Your child begins to search for a sense of moral order, in addition to physical order. Children begin to take charge of their learning, based on their interests and desires. Common sensitivities in this plane include:

- Abstraction and imagination
- Morality and justice
- Culture
- Peer/social interactions



EXTRACURRICULAR

Technology

- Demonstrate the proper care of technological systems and components.
- Interpret, analyze, and evaluate information with the assistance of technology.
- Use Google Apps for Education to produce products.
- Show examples of how technology affects and impacts one's current life.
- Use age appropriate vocabulary related to technology.

Art

- Students explore a variety of techniques and media ranging from painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpting and mixed media.
- The art curriculum is designed to expose students to art history, visual arts vocabulary, art criticism, self-expression through artmaking and art-related careers.
- Students experience the art-making process through brainstorming, creating preliminary sketches, exchanging ideas with their peers, using and caring for art materials, producing final projects and evaluating artwork.
- Art exhibitions are mounted in each building throughout the school year.
- The skills and knowledge acquired by elementary art students will lay the foundation for their studies in art at the secondary level and beyond.

Physical Education

- Demonstrate sport-specific skills in individual, and team sports, and recreational games.
- Perform and understand fitness activities that develop and maintain cardiorespiratory endurance, muscular strength, and endurance of large muscle groups, and flexibility of major joints.
- Identify physical activities that can be used to improve health related fitness components and contribute to feeling good.
- Demonstrate on a daily basis, good personal/social character traits at least 75% of the time.

MATHEMATICS

Numeracy

Operations & Algebraic Thinking

- Interpret products of whole numbers using objects to create arrays
- Interpret whole-number quotients of whole numbers utilizing objects.
- Use multiplication and division within 100 to solve word problems in situations involving equal groups.
- Determine the unknown whole number in a multiplication or division equation relating three whole numbers. ($8 \times ? = 48$, $5 = _ \div 3$, $6 \times 6 = ?$)
- Apply properties of operations as strategies to multiply and divide.
 - Commutative and associative property of multiplication,
 - Distributive property.
- Fluently multiply and divide within 100.
- By the end of Grade 3, know from memory all products of two one-digit numbers.
- Solve two-step word problems using the four operations.
- Identify arithmetic patterns (including patterns in the addition table or multiplication table), and explain them using properties of operations. For example, observe that 4 times a number is always even, and explain why 4 times a number can be decomposed into two equal addends.

Numbers and Operations: Fractions

- Understand what a fraction represents
- Understand a fraction as a number on the number line; represent fractions on a number line diagram.
- Explain equivalence of fractions in special cases, and compare fractions by reasoning about their size.

Measurement and Data

- Recognize area as an attribute of plane figures and understand concepts of area measurement.
- Measure areas by counting unit squares (square cm, square m, square in, square ft, and improvised units).
- Relate area to the operations of multiplication and addition.

Geometry

- Understand that shapes in different categories (e.g., rhombuses, rectangles, and others) may share attributes (e.g., having four sides), and that the shared attributes can define a larger category (e.g., quadrilaterals).
- Recognize rhombuses, rectangles, and squares as examples of quadrilaterals, and draw examples of quadrilaterals that do not belong to any of these subcategories.
- Partition shapes into parts with equal areas. Express the area of each part as a unit fraction of the whole.

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

Writing

Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.

- Introduce the topic or text they are writing about, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure that lists reasons.
- Provide reasons that support the opinion.
- Use linking words and phrases (e.g., because, therefore, since, for example) to connect opinion and reasons.
- Provide a concluding statement or section.

Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

- Introduce a topic and group related information together; include illustrations when useful to aid in comprehension.
- Develop the topic with facts, definitions, and details.
- Use linking words and phrases (e.g., also, another, and, more, but) to connect ideas within categories of information.
- Provide a concluding statement or section.

Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

- Establish a situation and introduce a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.
- Use dialogue and descriptions of actions, thoughts, and feelings to develop experiences and events or show the response of characters to situations.
- Use temporal words and phrases to signal event order.

- Provide a sense of closure.

With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose. With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.

Phonics and Word Recognition

Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.

- Identify and know the meaning of the most common prefixes and derivational suffixes.
- Decode words with common Latin suffixes.
- Decode multisyllable words.
- Read grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words.

Reading: Literature

- Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
- Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.
- Refer to parts of stories, dramas, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.
- Distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.

Reading: Informational Text

- Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
- Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.
- Use text features and search tools (e.g., key words, sidebars, hyperlinks) to locate information relevant to a given topic efficiently.
- Distinguish their own point of view from that of the author of a text.
- Compare and contrast the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic.

Language

Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

- Explain the function of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in general and their functions in particular sentences.
- Form and use regular and irregular plural nouns, and use abstract nouns.
- Form and use regular and irregular verbs.
- Form and use the simple (e.g., I walked; I walk; I will walk) verb tenses.
- Ensure subject-verb and pronoun-antecedent agreement.
- Form and use comparative and superlative adjectives and adverbs, and choose between them depending on what is to be modified.
- Use coordinating and subordinating conjunctions.
- Produce simple, compound, and complex sentences.

Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

- Capitalize appropriate words in titles.
- Use commas and quotation marks properly
- Form and use possessives.
- Use conventional spelling for high-frequency and other studied words and for adding suffixes to base words (e.g., sitting, smiled, cries, happiness).
- Use spelling patterns when writing words.
- Consult dictionary and thesauruses for reference
- Determine the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning word..
- Use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
- Use a known root word as a clue to the meaning of an unknown word with the same root (e.g., company, companion).
- Use glossaries or beginning dictionaries, both print and digital, to determine or clarify the precise meaning of key words and phrases.

Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate conversational, general academic, and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal spatial and temporal.

Fluency

Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

- Read grade-level text with purpose and understanding.
- Read grade-level prose and poetry orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression on successive readings.
- Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary.

Speaking and Listening

- Determine the main ideas and supporting details of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
- Ask and answer questions about information from a speaker, offering appropriate elaboration and detail.

SCIENCE

- Scientific Method and Inquiry
- Summarizes information from charts & graphs to answer scientific questions
- Constructs simple charts & graphs from data & observation

Space Systems: Patterns and Cycles

- The Universe and its Stars

Biology

- Classify plants based on observable characteristics (root, leaves, stems & flowers) Describe the function of parts
- Classify animals based on observable characteristics (backbone, skin, shell, limbs, scales)
- Relate characteristics & functions of parts of plants
- Relate characteristics & functions of observable parts of animals

Physical Science: Forces and Motion

- Identify the force that pulls objects towards Earth
- Describe how a push or pull is a force
- Demonstrate concepts of change in motion

Physical Science: Energy and Properties of Matter

- Identify light and sound ad forms of energy

- Demonstrate that light travels in straight line & how shadows are made
- Relate sounds to sources of vibrations/Distinguish effect of fast or slow vibrations as pitch

SOCIAL STUDIES

Timeline of Life

In the Montessori curriculum, that Timeline of Life takes students through geological periods of time. Children research changes in the shape and placement of the continents as well as plants and animals during each geological time period.

Michigan History

- Identify questions historians ask in examining the past in MI
- Use sources to construct a historical narrative about daily life in the early settlers of MI
- Describe how MI attained statehood
- Create a timeline to sequence early MI history

Physical Geography

- Knowledge of the Continents and Oceans
- Use cardinal directions to describe the relative location of significant places in the immediate environment

Continent and Cultural Units

Each year, 1st – 5th grade students focus on a study of 2 continents throughout the school year. This includes a study of political and physical maps, identifying countries, cities, capitals, land and water features, using an atlas, and making maps as well as a study of the history and people of the countries. Research and a creation of a presentation for the class is included as well.