



HAND IN HAND CHRISTIAN MONTESSORI

Elementary Curriculum Overview

Grades 1st - 6th

Let's write the truths of God's Word and truths about God's world on the hands and hearts of our children as we walk, talk, rise up and lie down.

-Hand in Hand motto

based on Deuteronomy 11:19





Montessori Education & Your Child

What is a Montessori Classroom?

Montessori is a unique educational approach that nurtures a child's intrinsic desire to learn. Montessori focuses on the whole child – their cognitive, social, emotional and physical development.

In a Montessori environment, children learn by exploring and manipulating specially designed materials. Each material teaches one concept or skill at a time and lays a foundation from which students can comprehend increasingly abstract ideas. The elementary curriculum encourages and nurtures children's natural curiosity through an organized mastery of fundamental skills and basic core knowledge.

Children work with materials at their own pace, repeating and exercising until it is mastered. The teacher may gently guide the process, but the goal is to inspire through instruction. Most importantly, the structure of the elementary classroom teaches students to think for themselves. After small group lessons, teachers focus on asking questions that inspire students to inquire, analyze and evaluate as fully engaged learners. Children are then given a choice for how they will complete work to more fully master skills and extend learning.

Throughout the classroom, beautifully prepared, inviting curriculum areas contain a sequential array of lessons to be learned. As students work through the sequence, they build and expand on materials and lessons already mastered. And all the while they are developing qualities with which they will approach every future challenge: autonomy, creative thinking and satisfaction in a job well done.

Encouraging order, independence and self-motivation are fundamental to the Montessori approach. Carefully designed classrooms allow students to develop competence in caring for themselves and their surroundings. And from the sense of pride that "I did it myself" blooms the confidence to take on the world.

(Information compiled from The American Montessori Society website)



FAITH

Core: The foundation of our lives begins with a strong relationship with Jesus Christ. At Hand In Hand, we encourage this relationship with Jesus through a variety of faith experiences every week.

Atrium Circles	
Stories of Faith	Hands-on faith stories that help children come into relationship with God, to know Him and experience the mystery of God through the Word of God, wondering questions, and response time.
Hymns	Students regularly sing hymns together as a class. Hymnology and the background stories from the series "Hymns for a Kids Heart" by Joni Eareckson Tada are also shared.
Devotions	Using devotion cards as a guide, students are invited to take turns leading devotions within the class.
Verses for Life	Weekly study of a selected Bible verse, that includes the Apostle's Creed and the books of Bible. The goal is to encourage children to hide God's Word in their hearts, so they always have an answer for the hope we have. We use the New International Version (NIV) for verses study.
Jesus and Me Time (JAM)	Students are encouraged to have a quiet, reflection time to spend time with Jesus in a meaningful way. They are invited to reflect in a variety of ways such as prayer, artwork, and retelling stories.



LANGUAGE

Core: to learn the 9 parts of speech, sentence analysis, the rules of spelling, and the roots of Latin.

1st – 3rd Grade		4th – 6th Grade	
Grammar & Sentence Analysis		Grammar & Sentence Analysis	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noun • Verb • Article • Adjective • Conjunction • Preposition • Adverb • Pronoun 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interjection • Grammar Boxes • Subject • Predicate • Direct Object • Sentence Structure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noun • Verb • Article • Adjective • Conjunction • Preposition • Adverb • Pronoun 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interjection • The 12 Tenses • The Big Red Verb Box • Indirect Object • Adverbial Modifiers • Phrases • Clauses • Types of Sentences

Language Arts

Latin	Writing	Reading	Spelling
<p>Our focus is learning Latin roots that are the foundation of many of our English words.</p>	<p>Our writing lessons guide the learner in the writing process of prewriting, rough draft, editing, revising, and publishing. The students are giving the opportunity to compose fiction and non-fiction pieces within a variety genres.</p> <p>*Writing is a partnership with our homeschool families. Lessons are given at school, but the students complete the assignments at home.</p>	<p>Private Academy: In our Elementary 1, reading is taught using hands-on Montessori materials to develop comprehension, vocabulary, summarizing, fluency, and a love for reading. In Elementary 2, literary skills are taught through a variety of literature.</p> <p>*Reading is taught at home in the homeschool program, but students are encouraged to participate in the monthly Book Club</p>	<p>Private Academy: we have a systematic approach to spelling, including spelling rules and patterns as well as definitions, root words, and usage.</p> <p>*Spelling is taught at home in the homeschool program</p>



LANGUAGE: Grammar Symbols

Maria Montessori used the following symbols to help children recognize the names and function of the different parts of speech.

The following coloring code is still used in Montessori schools today.

Article



Small light-blue equilateral triangle

Noun



Large black equilateral triangle

Adjective



Medium blue equilateral triangle

Conjunction



Pink rectangle

Preposition



Green crescent

Verb



Large red circle

Adverb



Small orange circle

Pronoun



Purple isosceles triangle

Interjection



Gold skittle shape



MATHEMATICS

Core: To experience mathematical concepts a concrete manner and then develop an abstract understanding of these same concepts.

1st – 3rd Grade	4th – 6th Grade
Operations and Memorization	Application of Operations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addition • Multiplication • Subtraction • Division <p>*Math is individualized and sequenced for each child.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Factors and Multiples • Fractions • Decimals • Percentages • Ratios & Proportions • Powers and Exponents • Squaring • Square Root • Integers • Order of Operations • Variables • Cubing

GEOMETRY

Core: To experience geometric concepts sensorially and concretely understand geometric formulas.

1st – 3rd Grade	4th – 6th Grade
Foundations	Application
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solids • Geometry Cabinet • Constructive Boxes Series • Lines • Angles • Plane figures • Quadrilaterals • Polygons • Circles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similarity and Congruence • Equivalence • Area • Volume • Surface Area • Theory of Pythagoras



SCIENCE

Core: To study the entire Natural World Classification including Plants, Animals, Fungi, Protista, Bacteria, Systems of the Human Body, Periodic Table, and Atom Work.

1st – 3rd Grade			4th– 6th Grade		
Botany	Zoology	Meteorology, Geology, & Astronomy	Botany & Basic Chemistry	Zoology	Human Biology
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parts of: Plants, Roots, Stems, Leaves, Flowers • Leaves • Types of: Roots, Stems, Leaves, Flowers • Plant Research • Classification • Little Stories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 Animal Groups • External Parts of Vertebrates • Internal Parts of Vertebrates • Invertebrates • Animal Research • Classification • Little Stories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of Rocks • Earth • Planets • Weather • Clouds • Sun, Stars, & moon • Galaxies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vital Functions of Plants • Classification • Atoms & Molecules 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classification (Tree of Life) • Vital Functions of Animals • Bacteria • Protista • Fungi 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cell Theory • Great River • Human Body

*Science is taught rotationally.

GEOGRAPHY

Core: To study 7 Continents, 4 Oceans, 50 States, 10 Basic Landforms, 35 Advanced Landforms, and be familiar with approximately 195 Countries & Flags.

1st – 3rd Grade	4th – 6th Grade
Geography	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globes • Continents • Oceans • Puzzle Maps • Basic Landforms • Parts of Flags • Types of Flags • Continent Maps • Habitat study • Advanced Landforms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biome Study • Study of a Nation • Study of a State • Minnesota History • Pin Maps • Continents Study • Physical Geography • Political Geography • Economic Geography • Imaginary Island



SOCIAL STUDIES

Core: To study the concept of time and the needs of people throughout history.

1st – 3rd Grade

Social Studies

- Months of the year & Abbreviations
- Days of the Week & Abbreviations
- A Year and It's Parts
- Seasons
- Calendar work
- Time
- Timelines
- Roman Numbers
- Fundamental Needs of People by Kingdom
- Fundamental Needs of People by Continent
- Fundamental Needs by Time Period
- Fundamental Needs by Need

HISTORY

Core: To complete a linear timeline from ancient to modern time, highlighting significant events and people and make connections from the past to the present.

1st – 3rd Grade

4th – 6th Grade

Story of the World

Volume 1: The Ancient Times
Volume 2: The Middle Ages
Volume 3: The Early Modern Times

Volume 3: The Early Modern Times
Volume 4: The Moder Age

The children read *Jesse Wise Bauer's Story of the World*, and complete the coloring page/map, and a short narration on each chapter. Each child will present in class a Historical Character where they dress up.

* 3-day children complete the assignment at home and share it at school.

