

Our Elementary program is the **Second Plane of Development**, ages 6-12 years. This plane begins with concrete materials and ends with academic work in the abstract. Our Adolescent program, ages 12-15 years, begins the **Third Plane of Development**. The core curriculum is an extension of the Primary curriculum and includes Music, Language, Math, Geometry, Science and Cultural subjects. Art and music are integral to other areas, specifically cultural subjects. Daily outdoor activity emphasizes team building and sportsmanship. While the older student no longer requires the Practical Life curriculum to develop concentration, coordination, independence and responsibility, it remains one of the most important areas of the curriculum. In the second and third planes these patterns of learning, behavior, attitudes and social interaction blossom under the guidance of Montessori certified staff. The 6-14 year old stage is known as ‘Creation of Self’ through developing use of reason, intelligence and imagination and questions ‘why’, ‘how’ and ‘when.’ They have a physical relationship to the indoor and outdoor environments that he is responsible for maintaining. The collaboration on this practical challenge involves the use of intelligence and imagination and refined social skills. Students gradually develop a sense of diplomacy, social integration, and the ability to assume various leadership roles. By the time Montessori students have successfully met the challenges of these planes of development, our staff delights in knowing that they have become a person with the self-confidence and knowledge that he is capable of succeeding by their own efforts and abilities.

Practical Life

Grace & Courtesy

- Letter Writing
- Dining and Telephone Etiquette
- Community Service
- Philanthropy
- Peace Education
- Gifts/Challenges, Self Awareness

Elementary (Basic) Skills

- Keyboarding, Word processing
- Standardized Testing
- Homework, Time Management
- Research, Public Speaking
- Micro-Business Management

Care of Self

- Preparing Meals, Nutrition
- Sleep, Yoga/Meditation
- Daily Recess: Soccer, Zip Line
- Physical Fitness, Extracurriculars
- Hobbies, Special Interests
- Overnight Field Trips

Care of Environment

- Classroom Jobs
- Gardening
- Animal Care
- Care of Outdoor Environment
- Care of Home Environment

Sensorial

Visual

- Art Appreciation
- Museums & Theater Field Trips
- Computer Graphics

Auditory

- Music Appreciation, Composers
- Symphony, Concert Field Trips
- Singing, Classroom Instruments
- Winter & Spring Performances
- Drama Club

Language

- Mandarin
- Spanish
- Latin

Tactile

- Multi-Media Art Activities
- Crafting, Building Projects
- Concrete Math/Science Materials

Gustatory & Olfactory

- Cooking, Baking
- Gardening

Weights, Measures & Temperature

- Science Experiments
- Weather Station

Mathematics

Mastery of Operations

- Fractions, Decimals, Percentages
- Timings
- Standardized Testing

Geometry

- Design, Building
- Art
- Bridge Construction

Algebra & Trigonometry

- Concrete Math Materials
- Everyday Math

Application of Concepts

- Economics, Forecasting
- Spreadsheets, Budgeting
- Stock Market Game
- Computer Programming
- Micro Business Management

Language Arts

Literature

- Junior Great Books
- Novel Studies
- Daily Silent Reading

Creative & Expository Writing

- Daily Journaling
- Essay Writing
- Patriot’s Pen Competition

Grammar & Vocabulary

- Dictionary Research
- Sentence and Paragraph Building

Writing & Spelling

- Penmanship, Calligraphy
- Scripps Spelling Bee

Public Speaking

- Oral Presentations
- School Tours, Guest Relations

Cultural Subjects

Geography

- Landforms, Geology
- Political/Physical Mapping
- Country and Flag Identification
- Politics, Current Events

History

- Universe, Earth
- Human Civilization, Customs
- Ancient, Medieval, Modern
- Research, Foreign Visitors
- Cultural Celebrations
- Ethnic Cooking, Art

Scientific Classification & Experiments

- Botany, Chemistry, Physics
- Physiology, Zoology

Field Trips

- Morton Arboretum, Pilcher Park, Brookfield Zoo, Midewin Prairie
- CSO, Art Institute of Chicago
- Holocaust Museum
- Robert Crown Center
- Nature’s Classroom Institute
- Center for American Archeology
- Rock Climbing
- Blue Man Group
- Adler Planetarium
- Feed My Starving Children