

## A Skeletal Outline of the Montessori Lower Elementary Curriculum

This in an impressionistic aid for parents, not a literal scope and sequence!

CMS Curriculum	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
<b>Math</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concept &amp; process in operations of + and –</li> <li>• Skip counting: sequence of numbers</li> <li>• Introductions to fractions</li> <li>• Coin values/recognition</li> <li>• Word problems</li> <li>• Simple graphing</li> <li>• Time</li> <li>• Place value to thousands</li> <li>• Memorization of + facts</li> <li>• Measurement: length</li> <li>• Critical thinking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concept &amp; process in operations of – and x</li> <li>• Skip counting: powers of numbers; memorization</li> <li>• +/- of like fractions</li> <li>• Addition of coins; making change</li> <li>• Word problems</li> <li>• Venn diagrams</li> <li>• Time</li> <li>• Graphs</li> <li>• Equivalence of fractions</li> <li>• Place value to millions</li> <li>• Memorization of – facts</li> <li>• Measurement: length, weight, temperature</li> <li>• Critical thinking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concept &amp; process in operations of x and ÷</li> <li>• Multiples and factors</li> <li>• +/- of like fractions</li> <li>• Pre-algebra: parentheses etc.</li> <li>• Mixed word problems</li> <li>• Graphs</li> <li>• Place value to billions</li> <li>• Memorization of x and ÷ facts</li> <li>• Measurement: length, weight, temperature, volume</li> <li>• Critical thinking</li> <li>• Money work: coins, bills, word problems, making change</li> </ul>
<b>Geometry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic concepts: point, line, surface and solid</li> <li>• Names of geometric solids</li> <li>• Study of lines: parts of lines; positions of one straight line; relations of two straight lines</li> <li>• Complex geometric shapes; quadrilaterals, polygons, triangles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of angles: whole, straight, right, acute, obtuse; convex/reflex angles; angles formed by a transversal</li> <li>• Names of plane figures, including triangles &amp; polygons</li> <li>• Using constructive triangles to create various quadrilaterals and triangles</li> <li>• Study of triangles: sides, angles</li> <li>• Uses geometry sticks to create various triangles and quadrilaterals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detailed study of triangles</li> <li>• Study of quadrilaterals (parallelogram, trapezoid, rhombus, rectangle, square)</li> <li>• Study of polygons (pentagon through decagon)</li> <li>• Similarity, congruence, and equivalence</li> <li>• Measurement: area, perimeter</li> <li>• Study of angles: angles formed by a transversal</li> </ul>
<b>Language</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Word study: classifying, compound words, alpha order</li> <li>• Mechanics: periods and capitals</li> <li>• Phonics: short and long vowels, consonant digraphs</li> <li>• Poetry and dramatic recitals</li> <li>• Print handwriting</li> <li>• The history of writing</li> <li>• Spelling tests</li> <li>• Journal writing</li> <li>• Creative writing: beginning, middle, end, sentence expansion, outlines</li> <li>• Reading groups: leveled by ability</li> <li>• Public speaking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Word study: synonyms, suffixes, prefixes, antonyms</li> <li>• Mechanics: periods, quotations marks, commas</li> <li>• Phonics: blends, vowel digraphs; spelling tests</li> <li>• Poetry and dramatic recitals</li> <li>• Cursive handwriting begins</li> <li>• Spelling tests</li> <li>• Journal writing</li> <li>• Creative writing: beginning, middle, end, outlines</li> <li>• Reading groups: leveled by ability</li> <li>• Public speaking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Word study: homophones, homonyms, homographs, guide words</li> <li>• Mechanics: apostrophes for contraction and possession</li> <li>• Poetry and dramatic recitals</li> <li>• Cursive handwriting</li> <li>• Spelling tests</li> <li>• Journal writing</li> <li>• Creative writing: paragraphing, Informative, persuasive, narrative, outlines, editing</li> <li>• Literature groups: leveled by ability</li> <li>• Public speaking</li> <li>• Phonics</li> </ul>
<b>Grammar</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The function of the “noun family”: article, adjective, noun</li> <li>• The function of the verb</li> <li>• Introduction to sentence structure: “asking” vs. “telling” sentences; concept of a sentence as a complete thought</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Function of prepositions</li> <li>• Function of adverbs</li> <li>• Function of conjunctions</li> <li>• Function of pronouns</li> <li>• Function of interjections</li> <li>• The four types of sentences: declarative, imperative, interrogative, exclamatory</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of style: analyzing simple texts for frequency of parts of speech</li> <li>• Sentence analysis: simple sentences with predicate, subject and object; indirect object, adverbial extensions</li> </ul>

<b>Zoology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parts of five classes of vertebrates: fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals</li> <li>• Classification of vertebrates &amp; invertebrates</li> <li>• Characteristics of and stories about animals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of invertebrates</li> <li>• Beginning research into animals</li> <li>• Body functions of animals: movement, protection, support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taxonomy: classification of animals according to a 5 kingdom model</li> <li>• Research and guided report writing</li> <li>• Body functions of animals: nutrition, circulation</li> </ul>
<b>Botany</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parts of plants: seaweed, moss, ferns, pine trees, flowering plants, fungi</li> <li>• Characteristics of and stories about plants</li> <li>• Gardening</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Functions of the plant</li> <li>• Study of parts of the plant/ leaf/root</li> <li>• Beginning research into plants</li> <li>• Gardening</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced botany nomenclature (e.g. types of leaf margins, types of fruits, etc.)</li> <li>• Research and guided report writing</li> <li>• Gardening</li> </ul>
<b>History</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concepts of time: noticing changes in seasons, telling time</li> <li>• Graphing child's family ages</li> <li>• Passage of years: making a personal timeline of child's life</li> <li>• History of names of days of the week and months of year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of fundamental human needs of various cultures</li> <li>• Roman numerals</li> <li>• The Gregorian calendar and BC/AD or CE/BCE timeline</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The "long black line" (an impressionistic overview of earth history)</li> <li>• The "Clock of the Eras"</li> <li>• The Time Line of Life: detailed research into the Paleozoic, Mesozoic, Cenozoic and Neozoic Eras</li> </ul>
<b>Geography</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History of maps; puzzle mapping; cardinal directions</li> <li>• Basic land &amp; water forms</li> <li>• Study of 2 continents per year based on biomes and needs of man</li> <li>• Study of atmosphere</li> <li>• Study of hydrosphere</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parts of a flag; study of flags</li> <li>• Beginning basic research on land &amp; water forms</li> <li>• Study of atmosphere</li> <li>• Study of hydrosphere</li> <li>• Study of 2 continents per year based on biomes and needs of man</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced land &amp; water forms</li> <li>• Study of 2 continents per year</li> <li>• Study of atmosphere</li> <li>• Study of hydrosphere</li> <li>• Mapping skills: latitude &amp; longitude, making maps</li> <li>• Research and guided report writing</li> </ul>
<b>Physical Science</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work of water &amp; wind (water cycle, erosion, etc.)</li> <li>• Physics experiments: relating to the formation of the universe, gravity, inertia, volcanism, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sun and earth</li> <li>• Work of water &amp; wind</li> <li>• Nature of the elements</li> <li>• Physics experiments: relating to the formation of the universe</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physics experiments: relating to the formation of the universe</li> <li>• Work of water &amp; wind</li> </ul>
<b>Astronomy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of the solar system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of the solar system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of the solar system</li> </ul>
<b>Geology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Layers &amp; movements of the earth</li> <li>• Composition of the earth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Layers &amp; movements of the earth</li> <li>• Composition of the earth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Island project</li> <li>• Layers &amp; movements of the earth</li> <li>• Composition of the earth</li> </ul>
<b>Practical Life</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food preparation</li> <li>• Sewing activities</li> <li>• Animal care</li> <li>• Care of the environment</li> <li>• Host/hostess duties</li> <li>• Escorting Primary children to classes</li> <li>• Reading to Primary students</li> <li>• Grace and courtesy</li> <li>• Human values: peace, integrity, honesty, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food preparation</li> <li>• Sewing activities</li> <li>• Animal care</li> <li>• Care of the environment</li> <li>• Host/hostess duties</li> <li>• Escorting Primary children to classes</li> <li>• Reading to Primary students</li> <li>• Grace and courtesy</li> <li>• Human values: peace, integrity, honesty, etc. (continues on into 3<sup>rd</sup> level)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food preparation</li> <li>• Sewing activities</li> <li>• Animal care</li> <li>• Care of the environment</li> <li>• Host/hostess duties</li> <li>• Escorting Primary children to classes</li> <li>• Reading to Primary students</li> <li>• Stock market game: simulated stock portfolios</li> <li>• Floating lab: marine science experiments on field trip</li> </ul>
<b>Personal Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsibilities of self: concentration, task completion, use of time, independence organization</li> <li>• Responsibilities to group: respect for rules, cooperation, contribution to the group, leadership skills</li> <li>• Responsibilities to environment: care of plants &amp; pets, environment, cleaning, lunch preparation, keeping individual work space tidy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening of responsibilities which began in 1<sup>st</sup> year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solidifying responsibilities which began in 1<sup>st</sup> year</li> </ul>