FERNWOOD MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Curriculum Map for the Elementary Program

	LOWER ELEMENTARY	UPPER ELEMENTARY
Developmental Characteristics	6–9 year old: Entering the Second Plane of Development The child develops the 'reasoning mind' and their imagination. Students are interested in morality and social justice. They explore the community, outside family and friends, and are socially-motivated.	9–12 year old: Continuing the Second Plane of Development During this continued stage of development, students remain interested in the exploration of the wider society. Self-reflection is deeper. The 9–12 year old begins to detach themselves from the home environment and has continued interest in morality. Peers remain at the forefront of their social experience.
Practical Life	Developing skills: manners, cooperation, time management, accountability, independence, leadership Activities include: community meetings, conflict resolution, cooking, sewing, knitting, classroom jobs, partner work	Developing skills: community awareness, time management, increasing responsibility, advocacy in self and others, reasoning skills Activities include: classroom jobs, meetings, cooking, community service, note-taking skills, interpersonal management, planning of going out trips
Language (dependent on developmental stage and academic need)	Listening & speaking: listening and engaging actively, communicating feelings and thoughts, speaking clearly through oral presentations Reading & literature: phonological awareness, decoding strategies, building reading fluency and comprehension, analyzing literature, creative writing, poetry, identify and classify word study correctly (antonyms, synonyms, compound words, etc) Research & Writing: use age-appropriate mechanics, evaluate own writing, learn to edit and proofread, demonstrate correct pencil grip, cursive writing practice, basic paragraph structure, resources for finding information (dictionary, reference material) Grammar and sentence analysis: learn and identify all nine parts of speech, understand functions of words, identify subject/predicate/direct object of	Listening & speaking: leadership in a group setting, asking meaningful questions, listening attentively to peers Reading & Writing: comprehension, literature circles (further analysis), creative writing, formal essay writing (expository, narrative, descriptive, persuasive), vetting and citing sources, use of graphic organizers Word study: the study of root words and etymology, concepts such as analogies, personification, hyperbole, and idioms Grammar and sentence analysis: correct usage of writing mechanics, understand different types of sentences (complex/compound), identify additional modifiers in sentences such as adverbial modifiers, appositives, and attributives

	sentences, word study	
Mathematics (dependent on developmental stage and academic need)	Quantity & Numbers: Identify and form values 1-100 (and beyond), number sequencing, greater than/less than, odd/even, identify and understand place value (to the millions) Squaring and Cubing Fractions: Introduction to the concept of fractions, addition and subtraction of like-denominator fractions, equivalence, simplification of fractions, introduction to decimal fractions Memorization Work: Memorization, through repetition with hands-on material, of math facts in addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, laws of arithmetic (commutative, associative, distributive) Measurement: Introduction to types of measurement, concepts, history, uses for measurement, graphing	Operations & Numbers: abstract whole number operations (addition/multiplication, subtraction/division), expanded notation, comparisons, rounding, estimating Multiples & Divisibility: Greatest common factor, lowest common multiple, prime and composite numbers, rules of divisibility for 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 Fractions & Decimals: review concepts, equivalence, proper and improper fractions, mixed fractions, reducing/simplifying fractions, operations with fractions and decimals, comparing and ordering, understanding relationships between fractions and decimals Ratio & Percent: ratios as fractions or decimals, percents, percent of a number, understanding proportions, conversion of percents Squares, Cubes, & Roots: exploring binomials and trinomials, cubing of binomials/trinomials, concrete exploration of square root and cube root, writing through abstraction
Geometry (dependent on developmental stage and academic need)	Concepts of point/line/surface/solid, introduction to plane and solid geometry, shape nomenclature, creating patterns, shape attributes, exploring shape / size / symmetry / congruency of 2D and 3D shapes, the study of lines, angles, and triangles, beginning area work (end of third-year)	Review of plane figures and solids (including line work), advanced classification: identifying shapes by sides and angles, area and perimeter of all polygons, tessellations, polygons, similar/congruent/equivalent shapes, work with triangles, Pythagorean theorem (using materials), Volume (and calculation of formulas), geometric constructions (with compass and straight-edge)
INTEGRATED CULTURAL CURRICULUM (ALSO KNOWN AS THE COSMIC CURRICULUM)		
Science (life science, physical & earth science)	*Begin to conduct factual research (learning to ask questions)* Zoology: taxonomy (classification of animals), external parts of animals, types of vertebrates and invertebrates, living/nonliving characteristics, life cycles Botany: first knowledge of plant kingdom, needs of plants (experiments), parts of the plant, types of leaves, roots, stems, flowers, fruits, and seeds, life	Zoology: tree of life exploration, classification and phylogeny of animals, vital functions of animals, adaptations, food chains, connections between organisms and environments Human Physiology: introduction to cells, genetics, systems of the human body (skeletal, respiratory, muscular, digestive, nervous)

	cycles Scientific Method, introduction to chemistry (basic physical and chemical reactions), properties of matter, layers of the earth, space and solar system	Botany: Advanced vital functions of plants, genetic makeup and classification of plants Chemistry, Earth/Space, Physical: atomic structure, molecules, periodic table research and experimentation, conservation of matter and energy, Formation of the universe, fundamental forces, relationships between the earth, sun and moon, earth's processes (hydrosphere, lithosphere, atmosphere), simple machines
Geography	Map skills: identification of continents, countries, capitals, oceans, rivers, mountains, major land/water forms, cardinal directions, globe work (imaginary lines, equator, latitude, longitude), hemispheres Biome: characteristics of flora and fauna within biomes, types of biomes, needs of people within each biome Plate tectonics, the work of air and water	Elaborating and expanding concepts learned in Lower Elementary, students can now add to their knowledge with the exploration of additional research Cycles: the rock cycle, the water cycle, carbon cycle, nitrogen cycle Studies in ecology: introduction and review of biomes, food chains, food webs, decomposer, soil composition Other topics include layers of the ocean, advanced classifications of land/water forms (i.e. glacier, canyon, coasts, moraine), climate zones, the study of a country or state, Washington state geography
History	Developing the concept of time (past, present, and future), graphing time, calendar work (days of the week, months of the year, decade / century / Millenium, seasons, year and its parts), world creation stories, BC/AD - BCE/CE timelines, Timeline of Life (begins with the Hadean through Neozoic and is typically integrated with science and geography studies), Fundamental Needs of Humans and the relationship to biomes and cultures, Clock of Eons (research and exploration of eras and eons), origins of holidays and celebrations, early humans introduction	Review concepts learned in Lower Elementary about the Timeline of Life and era research Early Humans research (Hominid research, human migration paths), ancient civilizations (Mesopotamian, Egyptian, Roman, Greek), archeology exploration, Indigenous peoples history, Washington state history, American history and the westward expansion, the Middle Ages and important scientists, and explorers