

November Overview

A Montessori lower elementary classroom is an active, prepared environment. It offers a wide range of compelling, engaging materials, and is guided by teachers who are keen observers, ready to seize teachable moments. Students go about making independent choices of work in class, and follow their interests through various research projects. They are guided when necessary in order to maintain a well-balanced and productive work period.

Throughout the school day, students are invited to lessons in groups or individually. At times, the class may also engage in thematic discussions or lessons as a whole. To help give parents an idea of what would normally be covered in the course of a month, we will be sharing general lesson themes for each month, starting with those for the month of October (please refer to following page).

It is important to note that classroom lessons are not strictly limited to or determined by these themes. Other fundamental Montessori principles are considered in the comprehensive implementation of a productive classroom:

- **We respect and seize moments of serendipitous learning initiated by the student.** These “teachable” moments are invaluable, effective opportunities to engage the child’s inquiring mind, and feed and deepen intellectual curiosity. Lessons may and will arise from these moments, and they are prioritized as crucial opportunities for optimum learning.
- **We follow the readiness of the child for any lesson.** Each individual’s pace and readiness for learning is respected. Time is allotted for students to practice and grow with the concepts which have been presented.
- **Learning is cross-curricular and cyclical.** Fundamental concepts and skills are re-visited on a regular basis throughout a child’s time in a Montessori class. Lessons are not simply given one month and then promptly forgotten. The unique structure of a Montessori classroom – with its emphasis on connective learning and its focus on individual inquiry – enables students to come across a particular concept several times and in different contexts or ways within a three-year cycle.

November – GENERAL THEME OVERVIEW

GRADE 1 THEMES

Math	Language	Culture & Science
<p><u>Math Facts and Mental Math:</u> Word problems Counting on or back in 3s and 4s Addition and Subtraction facts to 20 Identifying number pairs that equal 20, 100</p> <p><u>Math Operations:</u> Dynamic Addition Dynamic Multiplication Operations with fractions (addition, multiplication)</p> <p><u>Problem-solving and Application:</u> Making predictions Using lists to solve problems Counting/adding strategies Relating units of time Graphing: Pictograms</p> <p><u>Geometry:</u> Types of triangles Relationships of lines Measurement in inches and centimeters</p>	<p><u>Grammar:</u> Adjectives Capitalization End punctuation for types of sentences Commas for dates and lists</p> <p><u>Reading Comprehension & Critical Thinking:</u> Novel Study Foundations: Making Connections Story Elements Accelerated Reading</p> <p><u>Vocabulary, Spelling and Word study:</u> Abbreviations Alphabetical Order Prefixes Weekly Spelling</p> <p><u>Writing Skills:</u> Parts of an Effective Report Self-Editing</p> <p><u>Presentation Skills:</u> Creating and Explaining a Diorama</p> <p><u>Creative Writing:</u> Writing myths (volcanoes, earthquakes) Poetry: Acrostic Poems</p>	<p><u>Great Lesson:</u> Story of Humans Story of Writing</p> <p><u>History:</u> Quarter past and quarter to Past, Present and Future Fundamental Needs of Humans</p> <p><u>Physical Sciences:</u> Constellations Land & Water Forms Review European country / flag study Day and Night</p> <p><u>Life Sciences:</u> Parts of Plants Plants in Our Environment Food chains</p>

Parents who wish to further engage their children in these topics are invited to contact their classroom teachers to discuss ways to effectively apply and reinforce concepts at home.

November – GENERAL THEME OVERVIEW

GRADE 2 THEMES

Math	Language	Culture & Science
<p><u>Math Facts and Mental Math:</u> Word problems Adding/subtracting multiples of 10 and 100 Writing words as numerals and numerals as words</p> <p><u>Math Operations:</u> Dynamic / long multiplication Dynamic / long division Multiples Operations with fractions Factoring</p> <p><u>Problem-solving and Application:</u> Graphing: Pictograms Choosing the best operation Money: KYD, GBP Addition strategies</p> <p><u>Geometry:</u> Parts and measurement of angles Conversion of measurement Locations on a coordinate plane</p> <p><u>Other:</u> Roman numerals</p>	<p><u>Grammar:</u> Subject-Verb agreement Adverbial modifiers Using commas Irregular plural forms</p> <p><u>Reading Comprehension & Critical Thinking:</u> Novel Study: Connections & Questions Identifying story elements Accelerated Reader</p> <p><u>Vocabulary, Spelling and Word study:</u> Synonyms, Prefixes, Homophones, Homographs Latin Prefixes Spelling</p> <p><u>Writing Skills:</u> Project Outlines Self-Editing</p> <p><u>Presentation Skills:</u> Creating a Clear, Informative, Impactful Poster Making a Diorama</p> <p><u>Creative Writing:</u> Writing myths (origin/creation stories) Poetry – Diamante / Cinquain Poems</p>	<p><u>Great Lesson:</u> Story of Humans Story of Writing</p> <p><u>History:</u> Fundamental Needs of Humans Progress of Civilization Clock of Eras</p> <p><u>Physical Sciences:</u> Path of the Sun’s Rays Latitude, Longitude Lithosphere Studies</p> <p><u>Life Sciences:</u> Timeline of Life – in-depth study Vital Functions Biomes of Europe</p>

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GRADE 3 THEMES

Math	Language	Culture & Science
<p><u>Math Facts and Mental Math:</u> Word problems Counting on or back in 1s, 10s, 100s, 1000s Identifying number patterns Multiplying by 10 Comparing and ordering numbers</p> <p><u>Math Operations:</u> Least Common Multiple Long Multiplication Dynamic / Long Division Operations with Unlike Fractions Factoring</p> <p><u>Problem-solving and Application:</u> Graphing: Pictograms Money: Review of KYD, GBP Approximation and rounding Identifying an example that satisfies a generalization Conversion of measurement</p> <p><u>Geometry:</u> Coordinate plane Oblique & perpendicular lines Measurement, types of angles Perimeter Area</p> <p><u>Other:</u> Roman numerals</p>	<p><u>Grammar:</u> Quotation marks and commas Subject-Verb agreement Adjectival and Adverbial Modifiers Irregular plural forms – Latin origins The Complement</p> <p><u>Reading Comprehension & Critical Thinking:</u> Novel Study: Connections & Questions Identifying story elements (protagonist/antagonist/conflict) Accelerated Reader</p> <p><u>Vocabulary, Spelling and Word study:</u> Homophones, Homographs, Homonyms Latin Prefix lesson: milli-, centi-, kilo- Spelling</p> <p><u>Writing Skills:</u> Project Outlines, Self-Editing Citing Sources and Using a Bibliography</p> <p><u>Presentation Skills:</u> Creating a Clear, Informative, Impactful Poster Creating Visual Displays</p> <p><u>Creative Writing:</u> Using symbols when writing myths Poetry – Diamante / Cinquain Poems “Mystery Box” short story</p>	<p><u>Great Lesson:</u> Story of Humans Story of Writing</p> <p><u>History:</u> Fundamental Needs of Humans Progress of Civilization Clock of Eras Ancient Writing Systems – Egyptian Hieroglyphs</p> <p><u>Physical Sciences:</u> Path of the Sun’s Rays Orbits – Centripetal & Centrifugal Forces Latitude, Longitude Plate Tectonics</p> <p><u>Life Sciences:</u> Timeline of Life Vital Functions and The Human Body Biomes of Europe</p>

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