

American Montessori Society – Teacher Education

CORE MATERIALS AND ACTIVITIES FOR ELEMENTARY PROGRAMS

The intent of this checklist is to provide Montessori teacher education programs with a list of traditional, developmentally appropriate materials and activities that Montessori teachers of children ages 6 through 12 years are generally expected to have available in their classrooms. This list is comprehensive, but not exclusive or prescriptive and teacher education program instructors may also present other activities.

If a material is specifically for the EI or EII level, a mark has been placed in the appropriate column. “Transition” indicates that the material or activity is often used in classrooms at both age levels.

**Starred items indicate additional suggested materials or activities that may not be available at a school site, but will contribute to a new teacher’s understanding of Montessori curriculum.*

Cultural Knowledge (Geography, History, Science)		E I	Transition	E II
	GEOGRAPHY - Political			
	Puzzle Maps of Continents/Control Maps	x		
	Flags of The World and Stands	x		
	Nomenclature of the Flag	x		
	Physical and Political Pin Maps	x	x	
	GEOGRAPHY- Physical			
	Land Forms	x		
	Classified Nomenclature for Geography	x		x
	Experiments / Demonstrations to prepare for the Impressionistic Charts	x		x
	Geography Impressionistic Charts:			
	- The Universe, The Solar System, The Earth	x		x
	- Solar Energy and The Earth	x		x
	- Movements of the Earth/Consequences	x		x
	- The Atmosphere and Its Phenomena		x	x
	- The Work of the Wind		x	x
	- The Hydrosphere and Its Phenomena		x	x
	Format for In-depth Study of a Country*		x	x
	Economic Geography Charts		x	x
	Interdependence Activities*		x	x
	Production/Consumption -Maps and graphs		x	x

	HISTORY			
	Concept of Time	x		
	Days, Weeks, Months, Year and Seasons	x		
	Personal Time Lines	x		
	Telling Time - Clock	x		
	BCE/CE and/or BC-AD Time Line w/ Golden Bead materials, Century labels, and representative pictures	x		x
	Long Black Line (timeline) - Coming of Humans	x	x	
	Clock of Eras	x	x	
	Timeline of Life with Control and Mute charts	x		x
	Fundamental Needs of People - chart	x	x	
	Timeline of Peoples w/ cards from time periods and civilizations		x	x
	Migration charts			x
	Timelines for the Study of Civilizations		x	x
	Timeline of child's own country			x
	LIFE SCIENCE			
	Timeline of Life	x		x
	Zoology			
	Vertebrate-Invertebrate Classification - pictures for sorting and further classification	x		
	External Parts of Vertebrates - Wall Charts, 3 Part Cards, Booklets	x		
	Internal Parts of Vertebrates - Wall charts, 3 Part Cards, Booklets	x		
	Animals First Knowledge - Pictures, labels, story cards	x		
	Animals - First Knowledge - Questions & Answers	x		
	Animal Kingdom - Classification Chart	x		
	Invertebrates - Classification	x		
	Animal Kingdoms - Chart	x		x
	Animal Kingdoms - Domains of Life		x	x
	Comparative Functions of Animal Systems			x
	Great River (Study of human body)			x
	Tree of Life - Chart			x
	Botany			
	Botany Nomenclature: Plant, Roots, Stem/Trunk, Leaves, Flowers, Fruit, Seed	x		
	Botany Impressionistic Charts	x		
	Plants First Knowledge Stories: Pictures, labels, story cards	x		
	Plant Classification Charts		x	x
	Plants First Knowledge: Questions & Answers		x	x
	Advanced Botany Nomenclature			x
	Materials for Botany Experiments	x		x

Math		E I	Transition	
	History of Math*	x		x
	Golden Bead Material (Place value)	x		
	Short Bead Stair Bars	x		
	Addition and Subtraction Strip Boards.	x		
	Addition Snake Game	x		
	Subtraction Snake Game	x		
	Multiplication Snake Game	x		
	Negative Snake Game			x
	Arithmetic Memorization Charts & Equations	x		
	Bead Cabinet & Arrows	x		
	Decanomial Bead Bar Box, Cubes, Squares)	x		x
	Stamp Games	x		
	Division Boards	x		
	Small Bead Frame(s)	x		
	Large Bead Frame(s)	x	x	
	Hierarchical Material (Unit-Million)	x	x	
	Checkerboard for long multiplication	x	x	
	Horizontal Golden Bead Frame(s)	x	x	
	Small Bank Game Cards (long multiplication)	x		x
	Test Tube Division	x		x
	Pegboard for Multiples and Factors	x		x
	Decimal Fraction Material	x		x
	Decimal Checkerboard			x
	Guide Squares			x
	Squaring and Square Root Pegboard			x
	Cubing Material			x
	Algebraic Trinomial			x
	Systems of Numeration (Different Bases)			x
	Multi-Base Bead Frame			x
	Power of Two			x
	Power of Three			x
	Fraction Skittles and Insets	x		x
	Fraction Insets (angle measurement and percentages)	x		x
	Fractions (Parts of a Circle – working pieces)	x		x
	Materials for:			
	Ratio and Proportion			x
	Principal/Interest/Rate/Time			x
	Velocity/Distance/Time			x
	Math Word Problems	x		x

Geometry		E I	Transition	E II
	Geometric Cabinet	x		
	Constructive Triangles	x		x
	Geometric Solids	x		
	Geometry Stick Material and Board	x		x
	Classified Nomenclature	x		x
	Equivalency Material I - Square divided into rectangles and triangles	x	x	
	Insets of Equivalency - for discovering area formulas			x
	Yellow Area Material			x
	Stand for Height of Triangle			x
	Theorem of Pythagoras plates			x
	Circle – Circumference and Area Materials		x	x
	Volume – Solid and Hollow Blue Shapes			x
	Volume box with 250 cubes			x
	Volume box with 1000 cubes			x
	Five Prisms			x
	Montessori Protractor (Instrument for Measurement of Angles)	x	x	x

Language		E I	Transition	E II
	History of Language*	x		x
	Comprehensive Phonetic Reading Program	x		
	Printed Bi-color Movable Alphabets	x		
	Phonetic Word Building Activities	x		
	Sandpaper Letters for Handwriting	x		
	Words to Pictures Cards	x		
	Sentences to Pictures Cards	x		
	Puzzle Words (Sight Words/Non-phonetic)	x		
	Command Cards: 1, 2, 3 Actions	x		
	Word Studies Activities	x		x
	Mini-Environment and labels e.g. Farm	x		
	Grammar Boxes	x		x
	Grammar Symbols and Activities	x		x
	Sentence Analysis Charts and Boxes with Arrows for Sentence Analysis/Reading Analysis/Sentence Construction/ Logical Analysis	x		x
	Access to a Library for research and pleasure reading (classroom or school)	x		x
	Material for Irregular Verbs	x		x
	Verb Forms		x	x
	Conjugation of Verbs		x	x

Practical Life		E I	Transition	E II
Practical Life in an elementary environment is a preparation for life, when the classroom expands outwards to the community and the world. The elementary environment should make available materials, supplies and activities that support a cosmic education.				
	<u>Refinement and Control of Movement</u> Movement and physical education activities, such as intentional control of movement, mindfulness, meditation, and refined movement with materials	x		x
	<u>Social Relations</u> Awareness and care of school and global community Grace and courtesy Education for peace Social justice Diversity Inclusion Community agreements Community meetings Service projects	x		x
	<u>Care of the Shared Environment</u> Care of the classroom environment - dusting, cleaning, polishing, mending Care of plants and animals Tools for outdoor work “Going Out” activities, field experiences/studies	x		x
	<u>Personal Care and Care of Others</u> Supplies for personal hygiene and self-care. Food preparation and Cooking	x		x
Creative Arts Ample supplies to encourage spontaneous creative expression and exploration				
	Music Drama Crafts e.g. sewing, art, carpentry,	x		x