

CHIARAVALLE MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Middle School Curriculum Year A

Orientation Week: Reading, writing and math assessments, portfolios, classroom teams and group meetings, personal reflection time, time management, study skills, organizational skills

	Connections Cycle 1	Exploration Cycle 2	Identity Cycle 3	Systems Cycle 4	Interdependence Cycle 5
Focus Questions	How am I connected to the world and my community?	What have people invented and discovered?	Who am I?	How are things arranged?	What can I do?
Language Arts	Reading and writing strategies, grammar, diagramming	Reading and writing strategies, grammar, diagramming	Reading and writing strategies, grammar, diagramming	Reading and writing strategies, grammar, diagramming	Reading and writing strategies, grammar, diagramming
Vocabulary Workshop	Definitions, word usage, word elements, Latin and Greek roots	Definitions, word usage, word elements, Latin and Greek roots	Definitions, word usage, word elements, Latin and Greek roots	Definitions, word usage, word elements, Latin and Greek roots	Definitions, word usage, word elements, Latin and Greek roots
Writing	Folktale, short story, reflections	Speech writing-expository essay, poetry	Family history project, research paper	Persuasion essay, reflections,	Compare and contrast essay, reflection, personal narrative
Anthologies	<i>All Together</i>	<i>Adventures and Adventurers</i>	<i>Friends</i>	<i>To Be Somebody</i>	<i>Unconquered</i>
Novels	<i>Child of the Owl, Let the Circle Be Unbroken, Sign of the Beaver, Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee</i>	<i>Amistad; Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry; The Slave Dancer</i>	<i>Waiting the Rain, Kimi Kimi, Travels of Charly, Children of the River, The Crossing, Fitting In</i>	<i>Of Mice and Men, Animal Farm, The Outsiders, Little Women, The Moves Make the Man</i>	<i>Ishmael, California Blue, The Cay, Wolf Women, Legacy of Luna, Never Cry Wolf</i>
Math	fundamentals, pre-algebra, algebra, geometry, data analysis, measurement	fundamentals, pre-algebra, algebra, geometry, data analysis, measurement	fundamentals, pre-algebra, algebra, geometry, data analysis, measurement	fundamentals, pre-algebra, algebra, geometry, data analysis, measurement	fundamentals, pre-algebra, algebra, geometry, data analysis, measurement
Natural World: Guiding Question	How are living things connected? How are the cell's structures connected?	What questions and rules are used to explore living things and the six kingdoms?	Where does life come from and how do genetics determine your identity?	What are the characteristics of invertebrates' and vertebrates' systems?	How are eco-systems, populations, communities, and the Earth's resources interdependent?
Science	Biology	History of life science and technology	DNA, genetic diversity	Human physiology, health	Current science issues
Social World: Guiding Question	How is the physical geography of a region related to the culture? How did Native Americans reflect the needs of people in their culture?	What are the factors that led people to explore and contribute to the exploration of North America?	Why do people migrate and what are the waves of immigration? What are the current issues around immigration?	What is Economics and what are the major systems used in the world today? What is life like in the US economic system?	What are the social problems that occur in the world and how can we make a difference?
Social Studies	Sociology, North American history, geography	Explorers and inventors	Mythology, anthropology	Cartography, geography, sociology	Social justice issues, peace keeping, mock trials
Personal World: Habits of Mind	Acceptance and contribution, goal setting, business	Personal creativity, personal leadership	Future goals, careers, finding personal balance	Stress management, peer pressure	Reflection and contributions

Chiaravalle's Middle School program gives students opportunities to explore subjects beyond the core. These subjects include **performing arts** (music, movement and drama), **fine arts**, **Spanish**, and **physical education**. Specialists assist students with various projects that relate to the themes being studied.

CHIARAVALLE MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Middle School Curriculum Year B

Orientation Week: Reading, writing and math assessments, portfolios, classroom teams and group meetings, personal reflection time, time management, study skills, organizational skills

	Forces Cycle 1	Structures Cycle 2	Power Cycle 3	Changes Cycle 4	Balance Cycle 5
Focus Questions	What forces and dynamics cause life?	How are things put together?	How do we use power to meet our needs?	How are things transformed?	How do we balance?
Language Arts	Reading and writing strategies, grammar, diagramming	Reading and writing strategies, grammar, diagramming	Reading and writing strategies, grammar, diagramming	Reading and writing strategies, grammar, diagramming	Reading and writing strategies, grammar, diagramming
Vocabulary Workshop	Definitions, word usage, word elements, Latin and Greek roots	Definitions, word usage, word elements, Latin and Greek roots	Definitions, word usage, word elements, Latin and Greek roots	Definitions, word usage, word elements, Latin and Greek roots	Definitions, word usage, word elements, Latin and Greek roots
Writing	Historical Biography, News Article, expository essay	Amendment Position Essay and Science Fiction Short Story	Poetry, Research Paper, choice writing	Service project proposal, resume, internship experience	Personal narrative, reflective pieces, autobiography
Anthologies	<i>At Odds</i>	<i>Lean On Me</i>	<i>A Place at the Table</i>	<i>Changes and Choices</i>	<i>Future Directions</i>
Novels	<i>Johnny Tremain</i> <i>Animal Farm</i> <i>April Morning</i> <i>Red Scarf Girl</i>	<i>The Crucible</i> <i>1984</i> <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> <i>Lord of the Flies</i>	<i>The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman</i> , <i>The Power of One</i> <i>Warriors Don't Cry</i> <i>Gandhi</i>	<i>The Jungle</i> , <i>We Shall Not Be Moved</i> <i>The Book Thief</i> , <i>Night</i>	<i>Childhood's End</i> <i>Ender's Game</i> <i>Flowers for Algernon</i> <i>I Robot</i>
Math	fundamentals, pre-algebra, algebra, geometry, data analysis, measurement	fundamentals, pre-algebra, algebra, geometry, data analysis, measurement	fundamentals, pre-algebra, algebra, geometry, data analysis, measurement	fundamentals, pre-algebra, algebra, geometry, data analysis, measurement	fundamentals, pre-algebra, algebra, geometry, data analysis, measurement
Natural World: Guiding Question	What are the laws that govern gravitation, motion, and electromagnetic forces?	What is the structure of the atom? How do the organization and properties of the elements determine how molecules are structured?	What is energy and what are the laws of thermodynamics? What are the types and properties of waves and how do they transmit energy?	How do machines change the way work is done? How is energy changed into useful electrical power?	How can we balance the use of fossil fuels with other forms of energy and the advancement of technology with nature?
Science	Properties of matter, atoms, molecular structure	Forms of physical science: forces and motion	Interaction of matter and energy	Work and machines	Green technology and social responsibility
Social World: Guiding Question	What forces brought about the American Revolution? What forces bring about revolutions and which other revolutions have impacted us?	What are the structures of the four basic forms of government and our federal and state constitutions?	What is the history of social injustice in the US and the world and how can it have power over people's lives? How can we use history to affect political change?	What caused the American industrial revolution and what kinds of changes in society led to inventions, inventors, and industrialists?	What are the characteristics of war and how can we promote world peace?
Social Studies	Political Science, The American Revolution	Political Science, federal and state constitutions	Civil Rights, Holocaust	Industrial Revolution, Information Age	Political Science, Current Events
Personal World: The Heroic Journey	Acceptance and contribution, goal setting, business	Personal creativity, personal leadership	Future goals, careers, finding personal balance	Stress management, peer pressure	Reflection and contributions

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