LEELANAU MONTESSORI
UPPER ELEMENTARY

ACADEMIC SKILLS

LANGUAGE

The student….

INTRODUCTION

• Understands the history of written language

HANDWRITING

• Writes formal papers fluently in cursive

GRAMMAR

• Identifies the nine parts of speech and use them accurately
  o Nouns: common, proper, abstract, collective, plural
  o Pronouns: relative, interrogative, demonstrative, indefinite, subjective, objective, possessive, reflexive/intensive, antecedents
  o Adjectives: descriptive, limiting
  o Verbs: action (transitive/intransitive), linking, helping, conjugation, tenses
  o Adverbs: time, place, manner degree or quality
  o Preposition: location, direction, position or relation, time, prepositional phrases
  o Conjunction: coordinating, subordinating, correlative, conjunctive
  o Interjection: greetings, joy, approval, surprise, grief, irritation
  o Articles

SENTENCE ANALYSIS

• Identifies subject, predicate, direct object, indirect object, and adverbial modifiers
• Diagrams and analyzes
  o simple sentences
  o compound sentences
  o complex sentences

WORD STUDY

• Uses common Greek and Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meaning of words
• Recognizes and understand word roots
• Uses knowledge of prefixes to determine word meaning
• Uses knowledge of suffixes to determine word meaning
• Understands frequently used antonyms and synonyms
• Recognizes and understands the meaning of idioms, adages, and proverbs
• Understands the meaning of similes and metaphors
• Demonstrates an understanding of homophones, homonyms, and homographs
• Recognizes and appropriately uses commonly misused words

• Recognizes and understands
  o eponyms
  o analogies
  o specific foreign words
  o acronyms
  o euphemisms
  o personification

• Recognizes and creates examples of
  o onomatopoeia
  o alliteration
  o assonance and consonance

• Uses dictionary skills to identify part of speech, meaning, and pronunciation
• Uses a thesaurus to improve word choice

PUNCTUATION AND MECHANICS

• Uses correct punctuation:
  o commas
  o abbreviations
  o apostrophe
  o possessives
  o commas
  o parentheses
  o colon
  o semicolon
  o hyphen
  o quotation

• Correctly spells grade level words

WRITTEN LANGUAGE

• Writes logical noun phrases (subject and verb agreement)
• Writes logical, simple, compound, and complex sentences

• Constructs paragraphs logically
• Organizes their paper logically

• Engages in the six steps of the writing process:
  o prewriting
  o writing
  o revision
  o editing
  o publishing
  o presentation.

• Uses the four square writing method as a guide to create organized papers with:
  o a topic sentence
  o an introduction paragraph
  o supporting details and paragraphs
  o a conclusion paragraph

• Practices the Six Traits of Writing
  o ideas
  o organization
  o voice
  o word choice
  o sentence fluency
  o conventions.

• Writes a variety of formal works including
  o narrative
  o research
  o opinion/persuasive
  o descriptive
  o letters
  o journal entries

• Follows and reflects on their writing progress as it is documented using a rubric on all final drafts.

READING

• Demonstrates fluency as a reader
• Demonstrates and applies the following reading comprehension skills in both fiction and informational texts:
  o inferences
• main idea
• details
• comparing and contrasting
• cause and effect
• fact and opinion
• drawing conclusions
• sequencing

• Reads for enjoyment

• Reads and comprehends a variety of genres such as:
  • short stories
  • poetry
  • chapter books
  • folklores
  • mythologies
  • traditional literature
  • historical novels
  • fantasy
  • biographies
  • plays
  • essays

• Identifies the different elements of a story
• Determines the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in texts
• Determines the author’s point of view and how it is developed through the narrator or speaker of the text
• Compares and contrast themes across different genres
• Supports individual interpretations and or conclusions using evidence from a literary or informational text
• Applies knowledge of word context and phrases to gain meaning from the text
• Analyzes how a particular sentence, chapter, scene or stanza fits and contributes to the development of the theme, setting, or plot

• Categorizes information using graphic organizers

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RESEARCH

• Generates questions and gather information from several sources
• Initiates a plan for searching for information and locate resources
• Uses the internet appropriately for research

• Takes notes from reference books, reference sites, and informational text using summarizing and paraphrasing skills
• Uses the table of contents and index
• Analyzes and interpret information text, graphics, illustrations, and diagrams
• Creates an outline of their questions and information to serve as foundation for their research paper.

• Writes a research report with a clear focus and supporting detail
• Creates a bibliography for sources
• Creates a presentation using technology

LISTENING SKILLS/SPOKEN LANGUAGE
• Asks and answer appropriate questions on familiar topics
• Participates effectively and appropriately in a conversation
• Understands ideas expressed by others

• Participates effectively in group discussions and activities
• Follows agreed upon guidelines for discussions and activities
• Expresses ideas clearly and provides supporting details

• Delivers well organized oral reports using eye contact and appropriate voice
• Retells and summarizes stories in logical sequence
• Uses appropriate vocabulary and grammar when speaking
• Understands grade level content and vocabulary

• Follows oral instructions: simple and complex

TECHNOLOGY
• Understands how to evaluate validity and reliability of information
• Understands ethics of internet usage (plagiarism, copyright infringement, cyber bullying, impersonation)
• Understands the permanent public nature of internet information (You Tube, Facebook, etc.)

• Uses a mouse, keyboard, and scanner correctly
• Uses appropriate ergonomics, apply the touch system on the alpha, numeric, and symbol keys at a given rate

• Organizes files on a storage device
• Types, edits, and prints documents
• Captures images with digital cameras/camcorders
• Inserts/manipulates digital photographs and other artwork
• Effectively uses Spell/Grammar check /Thesaurus
• Creates and saves documents in word and Google docs
• Inserts tables, graphics, and foreign language characters into papers

• Creates a spreadsheet and accurately enter, edit, and organize data
• Solves a specific problem given a spreadsheet, by using sorting and searching techniques

• Understands the difference between website, search engine, online data base, and subscription data base
• Understands how and why to protect hardware and software from computer viruses
• Effectively uses bookmarking, podcasts, blogs, wikis, media sharing
• Effectively uses the online dictionary
• Uses a variety of programs to enhance presentations which may include: iMovie, iWeb, Garageband, Google Slides, Prezi, PhotoShop,
• Understands and uses email, cc, bcc, attachments
• Shares documents using Google.docs and dropBox

• Completes source citation (author, title, URL, dates of revision and access)