

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

SENTENCE ANALYSIS

- Identifies subject, predicate, direct object, indirect object, and adverbial modifiers
- Diagrams and analyzes
 - simple sentences
 - compound sentences
 - 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
 - eponyms
 - analogies
 - specific foreign words
 - acronyms
 - euphemisms
 - personification

- Recognizes and creates examples of
 - onomatopoeia
 - alliteration
 - 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:
 - commas
 - abbreviations
 - apostrophe
 - possessives
 - commas
 - parentheses
 - colon
 - semicolon
 - hyphen
 - 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:
 - prewriting
 - writing
 - revision
 - editing
 - publishing
 - presentation.
- Uses the four square writing method as a guide to create organized papers with:
 - a topic sentence
 - an introduction paragraph
 - supporting details and paragraphs
 - a conclusion paragraph
- Practices the Six Traits of Writing
 - ideas
 - organization
 - voice
 - word choice
 - sentence fluency
 - conventions.
- Writes a variety of formal works including
 - narrative
 - research
 - opinion/persuasive
 - descriptive
 - letters
 - journal entries
- Follows and reflects on their writing progress as it is documented using a rubric on all final drafts.
- Demonstrates fluency as a reader
- Demonstrates and applies the following reading comprehension skills in both fiction and informational texts:
 - inferences

READING

- o main idea
 - o details
 - o comparing and contrasting
 - o cause and effect
 - o fact and opinion
 - o drawing conclusions
 - o sequencing
- Reads for enjoyment
 - Reads and comprehends a variety of genres such as:
 - o short stories
 - o poetry
 - o chapter books
 - o folklores
 - o mythologies
 - o traditional literature
 - o historical novels
 - o fantasy
 - o biographies
 - o plays
 - o 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

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
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- Creates a spreadsheet and accurately enter, edit, and organize data
 - Solves a specific problem given a spreadsheet, by using sorting and searching techniques
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- 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
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- Completes source citation (author, title, URL, dates of revision and access)