AMS Montessori Curriculum Overview Document

Ordering

This curriculum it is not available for purchase.

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Summary

The AMS Montessori Curriculum is designed to be used in Montessori learning environments that contain the following age groupings:

Infant/Toddler: 0-18 months

Toddler: 18-36 months

Early Childhood: ages 3-6 years

Multi-age grouping is an integral part of the Montessori philosophy at all levels. Philosophically, the rationale is that individuals learn from each other with opportunities to lead, share, and serve as role models for their peers. Students can accelerate or take additional time as needed to learn skills. The age spans of multi-age groupings are determined by the Montessori planes of development that are defined broadly as 0-6, 6-12, 12-18 and 18-24 years. AMS Teacher Education Programs prepare teachers to work with a 3-year age span and to have the expertise to support skills both above and below a developmental level. Multi-age grouping is recognized within the Montessori community as the optimal configuration for Montessori classrooms allowing the maximum opportunity for students to interact and learn from one another.

Professional Development and Implementation Plan

The American Montessori Society believes that continuing professional growth is a necessary component of best practice in Montessori teacher development.

AMS requires that holders of AMS Montessori teaching credentials issued on or after July 1, 2013 complete 50 hours of professional development every 5 years for the credential to remain active. If professional development hours are not completed within the 5-year period, the credential will be considered inactive until the requirement is met.

Professional development events do not need pre-approval by AMS to count towards the requirement, as long as they adhere to the guidelines below:

A professional development event may be hosted by a school; a teacher education program; or a regional, national, or international Montessori group or organization such as (but not limited to) those listed on the Local Groups and Montessori Organizations pages of
our Web site, or AMS itself (including our conferences and webinars). Additionally, it may be hosted by a regionally accredited college/university; educational foundation/organization, institute, or association; or a national or regional accrediting organization. It can also include coursework completed towards earning a credential (for an age level different from credentials already held) at an AMS- or other MACTE-accredited teacher education program, or AMI teacher education program. The event may be face-to-face event, a live Webinar, or a recording of a Webinar if written or electronic verification of participation is given.

Topics

The following event topics qualify for the professional development requirement:

- Montessori education and philosophy/pedagogy
- Curriculum
- Classroom management
- Child development
- Health, safety, and nutrition (excluding CPR, first aid, medication administration, exercise)
- Peace education
- Service learning
- Professionalism
- Leadership skills
- Social/emotional issues
- Special education and learning differences
- Education research
- Public or education policy
- Technology training that will enhance the teacher’s use of technology with students or refine the teacher’s computer skills in ways that will improve his teaching

Events that do not qualify: CPR, first aid, or medication administration training; exercise or yoga classes, unless they are related directly to teaching physical education to students; the reading of books, magazines, or journals; travel.