

**Desert Montessori School
Upper Elementary E2
Three Year Curriculum Plan
Year Three**

I. Social Studies: New Mexico History

- A. Who lived here
 - i. Native American Studies
- B. Who came here
 - i. Spanish History
 - a. Exploration
 - b. Colonization
 - ii. Anglo History
 - a. Santa Fe Trail
 - b. Railroad
- C. Cultural Studies
- D. Architecture
- E. Government Structure
 - i. Three branches of Government
 - ii. How a bill becomes a law
- F. Field Trips
 - i. New Mexico Archives
 - ii. State Capitol
 - iii. El Rancho de Las Golindrinas
 - iv. Palace of the Governors
 - v. Spanish Colonial Museum
 - vi. International Museum of Folk Art: Spanish Heritage Wing
 - vii. Museum of Indian Arts and culture
 - viii. Pecos National Monument
 - ix. Architectural walking tour of Santa Fe
 - x. Train trip to Lamy—Railroad Museum
 - xi. Visit to a working ranch
 - xii. Georgia O’Keeffe Museum
 - xiii. Overnight field trip
 - a. Georgia O’Keeffe home in Abiquiu
 - b. Ghost Ranch

II. Geography

- A. Physical geography of New Mexico
- B. Political geography as it affects New Mexico
- C. Geology of New Mexico
 - i. Competition for natural resources

III. Science: Data Collection, Analysis, and Display

- A. Earth Science
 - i. Energy Sources for electricity

- a. Nuclear
 - b. Solar
 - c. Biomass
 - d. Geothermal
 - e. Fossil fuels
 - f. Water
 - g. wind
 - ii. **A Balanced Environment**
 - a. Atmosphere and ozone layer
 - b. Greenhouse effect and carbon dioxide
 - c. Effect of pollution on the food chain
 - d. Water pollution
 - e. Land pollution
 - f. Air pollution
 - g. Water cycle and pollutants
 - h. Toxic waste disposal
 - i. Reduce, reuse, recycle
 - j. Global warming
 - iii. **Fire ecology and preserving National Forests and Parks**
 - iv. **Orienteering training**
 - v. **Field Trips**
 - a. landfill
 - b. recycling center
 - c. building using solar energy
 - d. wind farm
 - e. water dam for energy
 - f. Bandelier National Monument on fire ecology
- B. Life Science**
- i. Nutrition
 - ii. Diet
 - iii. Exercise
 - a. Presidential Fitness Goals
 - iv. First Aid Training
- C. Physical Science: Application of the scientific method to experimentation**
- i. Acids and bases
 - ii. Food chemistry
 - a. Atoms and molecules
- D. Science Information Night**
- i. Students teach parents about a particular science topic studied in class
 - ii. Students share their work, their experiments, and their conclusions
- IV. Language Arts**
- A. Reading**
- i. **Emphasis: Folklore, historical fiction and biography**
 - ii. **Fiction and non-fiction**

- iii. Development of decoding and comprehension skills
- iv. Development of new vocabulary
- v. Participation in literary discussion groups
- vi. Santa Fe Public Library
 - a. Every two weeks to check out books for reading pleasure and for research

B. Writing

- i. Emphasis: Persuasive and Narrative
- ii. Research Reports
 - a. Note taking skills
 - b. Summarizing information
 - c. Paragraph development
 - d. Citation of sources in a bibliography
- iii. Answering questions by restating the question and adding supporting details
- iv. Letter writing
- v. Personal Journal
- vi. Poetry
- vii. Book report
- viii. Five Paragraph Essay

C. Spelling

- i. Word study method based on developmental levels emphasizing phonetic, stem and derivational rules governing spelling
- ii. Dictionary skills

D. Daily Oral Language

- i. Grammar and punctuation skills
- ii. Troublesome words and usages
- iii. Parts of speech

V) Mathematics

A) Weekly lessons in concept and skill development

- i) Mathematical vocabulary
- ii) Place value
- iii) Rounding and estimation of numbers
- iv) Addition and subtraction
- v) Factors and multiples
- vi) Types of products: composite, square and prime numbers
- vii) Multiplication and division
- viii) Prime numbers and factorization
- ix) Square roots
- x) Exponents
- xi) Fractions, decimals, and percents

- xii) Positive and negative numbers
 - xiii) Lines: parallel, oblique, perpendicular, intersecting
 - xiv) Polygons
 - xv) Ratio, proportion, and percent
 - xvi) Probability
 - xvii) Algebraic thinking
- B Weekly lessons in applied mathematics**
- i) Standard and metric units of measure
 - 1. Liquid
 - 2. Linear
 - 3. Perimeter, area, volume
 - 4. Radius, diameter, circumference
 - ii) Graphs: line, circle, bar: interpretation and analysis of data
 - iii) Temperature: Fahrenheit, centigrade
 - iv) Coordinate planes and geometry: Cartesian graphing
 - v) Creating and measuring angles
 - vi) Creating polyhedrons: faces, edges, vertices
 - vii) Symmetry: reflection, rotation, translation
- C. Mathematics Projects**
- i. Data collection and analysis
 - ii. Exploring Different Bases
- VI. Other**
- A. Performing Arts**
 - 1. weekly drama lessons by classroom teachers
 - B. Field trips**
 - 1. Art museums in Santa Fe and Albuquerque
 - 2. Performance centers in Santa Fe and Albuquerque
 - C. Theatrical Performance**
 - 1. Earth Day Performance in April including vocal music, dance, drama, and the visual arts