



Program Overview

The Elementary Program at Casa di Mir is a carefully integrated curriculum designed to strike the imagination, curiosity, and thirst for learning. It offers a uniquely prepared environment with curriculum and materials developed for the 6–12 year-old. At this age, children strive to order their minds as they have learned to do with their physical world. It is an age of growing independence, social awareness, desire for justice and responsibility.

Casa's Montessori elementary environments are designed to respond to these needs, and promote the growth of students academically, socially, and emotionally. The entire curriculum supports the nurturing of confidence, cooperation, appreciation for community, and love for learning.

All subject matter begins with the big picture and becomes more specific in information as the child progresses through the elementary program. It moves from tactile experiences to abstraction. Practical, hands-on experiences are provided to help the child develop a deeper understanding and greater independence in their learning process.

The three general areas which comprise the basis of the curriculum are Mathematics, Language, and the Cultural subjects (a term coined by Maria Montessori for the studies of history, geography and biology). Given our focus on a well-rounded child, the Casa di Mir Elementary Program also includes Art, Music, Physical Education, Practical Life Skills, and Spanish.



Mathematics Curriculum

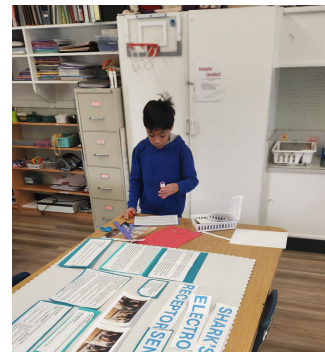
Our mathematics curriculum is founded on tangible experiences. Students learn to engage in math as an integral part of how we understand the world. All materials in our classrooms, purposeful and beautiful, are designed to intrigue children and invite them to experience the precision and predictability of mathematics. Especially in math, these materials guide children to independently derive the algorithms of increasingly complex operations and more intimately understand math concepts.



Language Curriculum

The Montessori language program at Casa di Mir is an integrated approach, developing language, writing, and reading skills simultaneously. The program is a continuation of the Primary Montessori work. In all aspects of our language curriculum, the importance of what each person must communicate is emphasized. The main components of the language program are:

- Reading/ Literature
- Writing
- Grammar
- Word Study
- Speech



Peace Education

True to Montessori values, we work together as a community, developing cooperation, mutual respect, and a sense of connectedness with each other and our environment. We work at problem solving on all levels, socially as well as academically. We emphasize good communication, and the need to search for new information in order to come to a workable solution. We take on community service projects that are often organized and led by the older elementary students. Throughout the school, but intensively connected to the 6-12 program, non-violent communication is a philosophy held close to all we do at Casa di Mir.

