

## COVER LETTER

**Dear Lower Elementary Community,**

Welcome to week 4 and 5 for Learning at Home! It has been wonderful to connect with you all throughout the week and see what you have been working on! We have celebrated the Fall Equinox and Constitution Day, oriented ourselves to the online classroom and resources (Khan Academy, etc), and explored geometric solids in the real world!

As we move forward, it is important that you share at least 1 example of your work on Google Classroom each week. This should be an example of work that is important to you. You may be proud of it, it might show growth or improvement or you can show something you struggled with that we can talk about together.

We will be formatting these lesson plans into opportunities for On-Going, Follow Up, and Big Work. **On-Going** work is something that you practice at your own pace to get better at. **Follow ups** is work that you practice after a lesson, and **Big Work** is a project that you are working on as an extension to your learning. This is usually an independent study where you will find yourself going to the library for more information, writing a report, making something and sharing something. Your day should include each of these types of work.

We will be referring to and using these types of work during our weekly conferences. If you have questions about them, please let us know.

The Montessori curriculum and philosophy is based off a scientific approach as to how the Universe was formed, called The Cosmic Curriculum. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be concentrating on the “Story of the Universe”, or the First Great Lesson and many of the key lessons which go along with it. It starts with the Theory of “The Big Bang” and how the universe was formed. You can try some of the different experiments that you will see in the First Great Lesson. We will read other creation stories and compare them to see what they might have in common as well as continue our discovery of geometric solids!

We look forward to connecting with you all this coming week!

Megan, Rebekah, Deb and Arden  
Lower Elementary Guides

## **LOWER ELEMENTARY: APPLE & BIRCH**

Learning at Home Weeks 4 & 5

September, 28th -October 2nd

October 5th -October 9th

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### **On-Going Work**

- Khan Academy
  - Apple Code: **3VA7P3RJ**
  - Birch Code: **5E35TAGH**
- Handwriting practice (Handwriting booklet will be provided with the work journal if you do not have one already)
- Reading- Independently or with someone
- Self Care
- Practical life
- Planning with your Work Record
- Big Work / Independent Research Studies

### **Self-Care Options**

(quiet time, exercise/outdoor time, relationships)

- Daily Quiet Time: silently look at books, draw, nap, journal, etc.
- Go for a hike
- Observe Nature
- Explore New Music
- Do Yoga
- Watch the Leaves Changing Colors
- Observe Clouds

## Practical Life

Please see Practical Life Bingo for September under the category on the webpage for “Lower Elementary.”

- Here's how to play:

Choose a square and complete the practical life activity. Fill in the date the work was completed. Write a response in your work journal at least one activity each week. If able, please include photos, draw pictures, or include anything creative to show when/where/why/how you completed the activity. Ask an adult for help, guidance, and materials when needed. Students may need support/supervision/a lesson on how to complete the activity. Families are encouraged to participate in the process. Good luck! This is due on September 30th.

## Work Record Notebook

We hope that these will be a useful tool to record your work throughout the week. It also will help us during our weekly conferences to reference your past work. Thank you for your patience as we put these together! They will be in the document vault for you to pick up.

- In this booklet, you will have a calendar for each month as well as a record to keep track of the lessons you received each week.
- Start by filling out the 1st calendar page for the month of September. Use one you have at home as a guide. Don't forget to put the numbers for the date in the upper right hand corner of each box.



- The next page will be your 1st work record for the week of September 28th. Each week has a section of each area of the content. It can be used in 2 ways. One way is to have a lesson, and then record what you did under each area of the content. Another way is to plan out what you would like to do and record it. When you completed the work, color in the dot next to it.

## **Big Work/Independent Research Studies**

- To help us think of topics for our Big Work, we will be creating a “Curiosities” section in the last quarter of our Writer’s Notebook. Find the last quarter of your Writer’s Notebook and place a tab with the label, “Curiosities.”
- Record curiosities you might have after the lessons you see, books you read, or personal observations. You could begin with “I wonder...” or simply make bullet points.
- After watching the First Great Lesson make a list in your Curiosities section or create a mind map about any wonderings you have. What interests you most about the lesson? What are 3 questions you might have about what you saw in the lesson?

## **Lessons and Follow-ups**

## **Math**

- Practicing Khan Academy daily will help you see the most progress. Please use our class code so that we are able to monitor your progress and practice.
- Investigation of Geometric Solids!
  - Using the Geometric Solids chart from last week, create a table in your Math notebook with at least 4 columns and 8 rows. Use the real world examples you found last week to closely investigate the parts of each solid. For each solid, see if you can classify the lines, vertices, and shapes. See example below:

<b>Solid</b>	<b>Lines</b>	<b>Vertices</b>	<b>Shapes</b>
Cube	12 straight lines	Eight vertices	6 squares

- Review Static Addition and Subtraction
  - Create 5-10 addition or subtraction equations to solve in your math notebook or use the ones below:

43+14=	61+22=	74+21=	54+15=	38+61=
17+41=	93+2=	80+14=	68+21=	20+47=

94-32=	81-10=	99-82=	55-23=	65-53=
17-5=	12-11=	49-24=	25-14=	33-11=

- Use items you have around the house or the online resources to help model and solve if you need!
- Go to this website: <https://montessori.tools/> to use the online version of the stamp game of the Golden beads to help in this review!

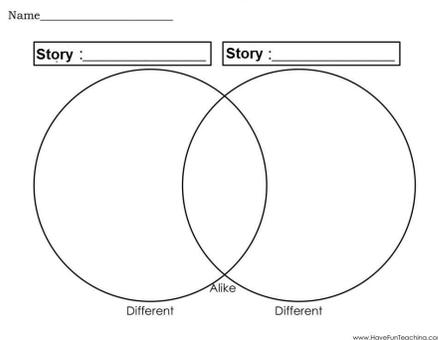
## Language

We have the opportunity this week to hear the 1st Great Lesson presented by the Hickory class (tune in live on Tuesday or watch the recording). What an exciting time it must have been at the beginning of the world! After watching, go online or to the library to find other creation stories, or stories from other cultures which describe how the universe was formed. Here are some titles to search:

- The Four Creations.
- Odin and Ymir.
- The Separation of Heaven and Earth.
- The Story of Corn and Medicine.
- The Origin of Japan and Her People.
- Death, and Life and Death.
- The Creation and the Emergence.
- Creation by and of the Self.
- Marduk Creates the World from the Spoils of Battle.
- The Golden Chain.
- Grandfather Rock

Discuss the different elements of a Creation story

- chaos/cosmic egg, birth, world parents, supreme being, creation of earth, animals, and humans.
- Compare 2 creation stories. Use a comparison chart like the one below or create your own. Record in your Language Arts Notebook the similarities and differences.



- I wonder if you could write and illustrate your own creation story with each element?
- Perhaps you could pick your favorite creation myth to illustrate and write captions for?
- Pick several sentences from a creation myth and record them in your Language Arts Notebook. See if you can analyze them using the grammar symbols from last week!

## **Culture and Science**

- Watch Hickory (Upper Elementary) give the First Great Lesson to Apple and Birch! The video will be shared soon or you can join on Google Meets to watch it live!
- Try the experiments you saw in the video with an adult at home. Remember to record the First Great Lesson in your work journal and record your observations in your Culture Notebook.
- In the First Great Lesson, there was one part of the story which told us that every particle follows a law. You are going to examine those laws. Remember there are three states of matter, solids, liquids and gases. The state of certain particles depends on how hot or cold the particle is.
- In your Culture and Science Notebook, Record the date and the name of the experiment. List the materials you need and the steps of the procedure you will follow. Perform the experiment and record your observations!

**To Liquify, to Solidify (Request Adult Support with this experiment!)**

### **Materials**

Heat source, matches, heat pad, tongs, baking soda, fire extinguisher, goggles, apron, measuring cup (metal), wax, basin,(8"wide), pitcher of water

### **Procedure:**

1. Pour the water into the basin
2. Put the wax into the cup and put it over the heat and observe the melting of the wax into a liquid.( Be careful not to leave the wax on the heat for too long, because it could produce flames.) What has our solid turned into?
3. Pour the liquid wax into the water in the basin and observe the solidification.
4. Pick up the cooled, solidified wax.

Explain what was happening to the particles that make up the wax throughout the experiment.

- Follow this link to another fun experiment to explore solid to liquid to solid!  
<https://lifestyle.howstuffworks.com/crafts/science-projects/science-projects-for-kids-states-of-matter.htm#pt1>

## **Movement, Music, and Enrichment**

- Have you chosen a tree that you see everyday to observe how the leaves change colors and drop? How different does it look this week compared to last week? Draw, write or both about what you notice.
- Create chalk (or use other mediums!) illustrations to depict the First Great Lesson. Take a picture and post it on the Google classroom!
- Drop off your art-work Name Game card in the document vault if you have finished it! (Art project from week 1)
- What are your favorite songs to sing and or dance along to? Post the song and artist in the google classroom.

## **Community Building**

- If you are interested in joining us live for the 1st great lesson, let us know and we can send you a link to a Google Meet for the time of the lesson. If not, it will be posted in the Google Classrooms Tuesday evening.
- We love hearing how you are connecting with friends and we hope to facilitate some connection to the environment here at Montessori when possible using Google Meet or Google Classroom.
  - Google Meet in a Monday Morning Group.
    - There is a link on the Google Classroom page. Just send an email the day before to let us know if you are joining. Group is at 8:30am on Mondays.
  - Send a letter to the classroom!
    - 7401 E. Duck Lake Road, Lake Leelanau, MI 49653
  - Set up a time to share!
    - Google Meet live or record yourself showing a finished project or even something you are working on. Request a time to share by sending an email to your guide.
    - Many days at 9:45 we will have a break in our morning work cycle for a group lesson. Let us know if you would like to join the day before and we will send a link. If we do not happen to have a group lesson that day, you can still join the work cycle for a short time to say “Hi” to friends and connect.

