



Curriculum Guide

... prepared for the life ahead

Lower School

Lower School Curriculum

The Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor Lower School curriculum is based on the knowledge that learning not only involves the students' thinking, but also their feeling and willing. Lower School students engage in joyful discovery in an age-appropriate classroom approach that seamlessly integrates academics, the arts, movement, and cooperative work.

Language Arts

Writing
Reading
Spelling and Grammar
Composition and Creative Writing
Speech Formation
Literature
Poetry
Drama
Research Skills

Mathematics

Arithmetics
Mathematical Fundamentals
Geometry
Algebra

Natural Sciences

Nature Study
Zoology
Botany
Physics
Inorganic and Organic Chemistry
Human Physiology and Anatomy
Astronomy

Earth Sciences

Geography (Local and World)
Mineralogy
Climatology
Meteorology

Social Sciences

Prehistory
Ancient Cultures
Greek History
Roman History
Medieval History
Renaissance
American History
Modern History

Fine Arts

Painting
Drawing
Modeling
Form Drawing

Practical Arts

Handwork
Woodwork

Foreign Language

Spanish and German (Grades 1-8)

Music

Singing
Chorus
Pentatonic Flute
Recorder
Violin
Chamber Music
Orchestra

Movement/ Physical Education

Eurythmy
Games
Sports (Competitive 6-8)

Contact Us

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The Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor is a community of students, parents, and teachers. Throughout each year we celebrate a variety of festivals together; hold numerous performances of plays, instrumental music, and vocal music; participate in work days; and volunteer in the wider area community. In addition, as the class teachers move with the same class from grade to grade, deep and long-lasting relationships are forged between students, between students and faculty and among school families.

The daily curriculum of the school is enhanced by a number of extra-curricular activities, especially in the upper elementary grades. Sixth, seventh and eighth graders can all participate in after-school sports including volleyball, basketball and soccer. Our seventh/eighth grade teams compete against other small independent schools from across the area.



Lower School students engage in numerous field trips of varying lengths. In the early grades, day trips to the apple orchard, sledding hill, Community Farm and other local sites add depth and interest to Main Lesson blocks. In fifth grade, the school hosts the Pentathlon, which Waldorf students from across Michigan and Ohio attend. Then, in sixth and seventh, they travel to other schools to attend the Medieval and Renaissance Games. In the upper grades, they also go on overnight camping trips with a focus on curriculum topics such as geology and history. Finally, in eighth grade they spend ten days in the Canadian wilderness, traveling by canoe and setting up camp each evening. These field trips all help to create a true community out of the children in the class.

