



Catholic  
Classical  
Education

**WONDER TO WISDOM**

*Immersion In Truth — Goodness — Beauty*

## Teaching A Child How To Think Not What To Think

METHOD	
GRADES K–5 Observation Memorization Sequencing	GRADES 6–8 Analysis Reason Intellectual Argument
FOUNDATIONAL KNOWLEDGE	CAUSE & EFFECT
<b>Religion:</b> Scripture - Doctrine - Heroic Example Old Testament; Baltimore Catechism; Saints; Sacramental prep; Virtues; Liturgical Year	<b>Religion:</b> Scripture - Doctrine - Heroic Example New Testament; Baltimore Catechism; Saints; Confirmation prep; Spirituality Program boys/girls (7th & 8th); Virtues; Liturgical Year
<b>Arithmetic:</b> Concrete; All operations w/whole numbers, fractions, decimals; times tables; Spiral & incremental	<b>Mathematics:</b> Abstract; Percents/ ratios; Pre—Algebra & Algebra I
<b>Language Arts:</b> Phonics, usage / patterns of language, dictation, copy work, narration; discussion & conversation; poetry	<b>Language Arts:</b> Formal grammar & writing; summaries and essays; diagramming; Socratic Circle; poetry
<b>Integrated History &amp; Literature:</b> Holidays, family history, explorers, founding of the U. S., modern era; Literature texts align with history era; PA State History; Geography of regions	<b>Integrated Humanities:</b> Ancient world to the Middle Ages; role of the Church in the founding of Western Civilization; Literature texts align with history era; Geography of regions
<b>Science:</b> Wonder & Inquiry! Hands-on & unit based: weather, animals (chicks), plants, farming; General Science; Nature Studies	<b>Science:</b> Earth – Life – Physical; Lab science; Science Fair; scientific method; Development of sciences by Catholic figures; Nature Studies
<b>Latin:</b> Prayers (oral); Greek and Latin root words; Latin vocabulary and 1st Conjugation and Declension	<b>Latin:</b> Conversational Latin; Latin grammar; translation; parallel analysis of English and Latin grammar; diagramming sentences
<b>Fine Arts:</b> Various media, skills, and techniques introduced or mastered by age group; Incorporates Liturgical year	<b>Fine Arts:</b> Various media, skills, and techniques introduced or mastered by age group; Incorporates Liturgical year
<b>Fine Music:</b> Rhythm and music theory; nursery, folk, patriotic, seasonal, and religious songs/ hymns, and chant; composers & genres; Group and choral singing	<b>Fine Music:</b> Rhythm and music theory; folk, patriotic, seasonal, and religious songs/ hymns, and chant; the orchestra, composers & eras; Group and choral singing
<b>Physical Education:</b> Skills, teamwork & sportsmanship	<b>Physical Education:</b> Skills, teamwork & sportsmanship

## DEVELOPMENTAL TRAITS

5—7 YEAR-OLD	8—10 YEAR-OLD	11—14 YEAR-OLD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• concrete; not ripe for abstract notions; can't distinguish between reality &amp; fantasy</li> <li>• confused about past &amp; present</li> <li>• writing lags behind speech; language primarily assimilated through ears vs eyes;</li> <li>• not ready for far away time &amp; places</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• chronology is rudimentary</li> <li>• may not be able to write down all the ideas for a story</li> <li>• proficiency in "tool" subjects</li> <li>• greater capacity for working independently</li> <li>• intellectual enthusiasm</li> <li>• doesn't generalize or correlate facts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• quick to criticize; argues about everything just to argue</li> <li>• climbing a steep hill (11): life is a struggle!</li> <li>• top of the hill is reached (12): sunshine after the storm!</li> <li>• ready to take on middle school; enthusiastic</li> <li>• argues to make a point</li> <li>• withdrawn, uncertain (13/14); not satisfied w/family</li> <li>• friends are a bright spot</li> <li>• not happy but is ethical; standards are high</li> <li>• argues for fun! capable of discussion; open to reason but not easy to convince</li> <li>• great time for Socratic Circle</li> </ul>

## VIRTUES BY AGE (David Isaacs, MD)

4—7 YEARS	8—12 YEARS	13—15 YEARS
Encourage to obey out of love	Aim for satisfaction in overcoming real obstacles	Give challenging but reasonable targets
<b>Obedience</b> <b>Sincerity</b> <b>Order</b>	<b>Fortitude</b> <b>Perseverance</b> <b>Industry</b> <b>Patience</b> <b>Responsibility</b> <b>Justice</b> <b>Generosity</b>	<b>Modesty</b> <b>Moderation</b> <b>Simplicity</b> <b>Sociability</b> <b>Friendship</b> <b>Respect</b> <b>Patriotism</b>

## MONTESSORI PRE-K FOR 3- & 4- YEAR-OLD CHILDREN

<b>Play is children's work;</b> <b>it is through the work of play that they learn.</b>	<b>Self-directed</b> <b>Hands-on</b> <b>Collaborative Play</b>
<b>Materials teach to the intellect of the child;</b> <b>used incrementally as the child matures and</b> <b>supports an aspect of child development.</b>	<b>Intentional</b> <b>Concentration-the foundation for all learning</b> <b>Independence-freedom within a framework of respect</b> <b>Self-regulation</b> <b>Contribution to group as a whole</b>

*—Excellent preparation for a classical classroom – they are ready to walk across the hall and enter the world of Kindergarten—*

## 5 ESSENTIAL MARKS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

1. Inspired by a supernatural vision – the child's eyes are fixed on Heaven.
2. Founded on a Christian anthropology – education is not a commodity but the formation of the human person: natural & supernatural.
3. Animated by Communion and Community – a community of persons & Faith.
4. Imbued with a Catholic worldview throughout its curriculum – spirit of Catholicism, integral education of the whole person, consistently inspired by the Gospel.
5. Sustained by Gospel witness – vital witness of teachers & administrators, the central figure in work of educating is the form of witness, committed to the Church and living Her sacramental life.

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