

# ***Montessori Homeschool Co-Op***

**St. Joseph's School  
St. Leon, Indiana**



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**Montessori Homeschool Co-Op – all ages:**

- Cosmic Education – Great Lessons
- Science materials
- Montessori Bells for music education
- Montessori Math sequence

**Ages served:**

We offer classes for children ages 3-14.

Actual classes available at any given time depend on the number of interested students.

**Current Schedule**

– Our schedule is open to flexibility; where enough students are interested, we can easily accommodate different times and days. –

**Thursday 8:45-11:45 am – ages 3-9**

**Additional days available with enough committed students.**

**Ages 9-14: TBD based on interest**

## Current Class Offerings:

- **Ages 3-9:**

- 1 or 2 3-hour sessions a week
- Primary and lower elementary
- Mixed ages for class continuity and family units
- Montessori Great Lessons for ages 6+
- Christian religious education is not included, though aspects of the Faith will be present – all children will feel welcomed

- **Ages 9-14**

- 1 3-hour session a week
- Combined upper elementary cosmic education with Levels 2 and 3 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Atrium
- Christian studies – all denominations welcome, materials will be adapted as necessary

## The Co-Op part of things:

We will work together to ensure the best possible experience for your child(ren).

Upon registration, Jessica will meet with each family individually. At this meeting we will discuss the expectations the family has of the Montessori environment, including any particular educational goals. We will also go over the child's current academic levels and interests to assure that each child receives presentations appropriate to his abilities and interests.

**Home/Co-op:** The co-op will be an extension of your home education. I will meet with each family individually to ascertain your Montessori co-op goals for your child. There will be minimal requirements outside of the co-op – only those things designed to maximize their experience in the co-op as well as to build up the life of your family.

## Curriculum Information:

**Cosmic Education:** The concept of cosmic education brings all subjects together, implementing them at appropriate developmental times with the children, building on these connections to demonstrate the connections between all areas of life, all people of all times and all places. Children develop an appreciation for the people who came before us, and gain a sense of responsibility for all those present with us now, and who will come after us.

**Scheduling:** This is a 1-2 session-a-week enrichment for your children. Tutoring (individual or small groups), or a more full-time experience can be available. Please speak to Jessica for more details.

At the primary level (3-6), our goal is to **give the child the keys to the world.**

At age 6-12, our goal becomes to **give the child the keys to the universe.**

### 3-6 (including the Kindergarten year):

Children aged 3-6 (primary level) will have access to much of the Montessori sequence, adapted to fit within a 1 or 2 day a week class schedule. The children will be expected to participate in extension work at home, mostly in the areas of sound awareness and practical life.

The theme for this age is “Give the Child the World” – thus we provide them with “keys” to explore their world: puzzle maps of the continents and countries; sensorial material that focus on weight, length, volume, color, shape, taste, smell, and more; the basic sounds of our language; practical life skills (ie how to fold a napkin) and more.



## **6-9 (generally 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade):**

Note: older siblings are welcome if they would gain from the class

This lower elementary group will be in the same class space with the primary level children, as they share many of the same math and language materials, going deeper with the work.

Now our mission is to “Give the Child the Universe.”

The keys we provide are different and build upon what came before. While continuing with math and language, they will receive presentations on the Great Lessons and the Key Lessons, and allowed to explore topics of their own choosing within these broad areas – in areas of geography, history, science, art and music. Kindergarteners will be invited, but not required, to join in the Great Lessons.

Extension work at home will be based on the family’s goals for their children and it is anticipated that these children will be utilizing a homeschool curriculum (Montessori, parent-designed, or otherwise) at home; parents seeking a more complete Montessori school experience for their children can consult with Jessica for more information on a more full-time experience.

## **9-14 years:**

With enough interested children, we can have a class for the oldest children – another morning of the week, an afternoon or an evening – where we can delve into the Great Lessons and into the works of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

This supplement to their regular homeschool curriculum will help them to build connections between subjects and aid them in seeking their place in this life, the Plan of God. Topics covered include an overview of history, overview of geography, the coming of people, coming of language, story of numbers, Plan of God, Biblical history, liturgical and worship practices and history, and more.

Math and language skills will not be specifically studied. Parents seeking specific areas of assistance for their children (math for example, or language/reading) should speak to Jessica about a tutoring option.

## **Family Expectations:**

Fees charged cover the following costs:

- Space rental
- Montessori materials
- Environment supplies

Each family will also be expected to work with the teacher and the other parents in any of a variety of ways, in order to offset the costs of the above and keep our overall costs as low as possible.

Ideas for assistance are always welcome and are not limited any of the following inexhaustive list, based on what your family can provide:

- Assist in the classroom; Hall monitor
- Purchase/Donate/Procure Supplies and materials
- Materials repair/making (all instructions provided)
- Set-up/Clean-up
- Providing snacks
- Sharing a skill with the children
- Etc.

Registered families will receive a list of current needs.

If you have any further questions, please contact Jessica at [jessica@gardenoffrancis.com](mailto:jessica@gardenoffrancis.com) or on her cell phone at (517) 256-4204.

### **Current Fees:**

Registration Fee: \$25 per family

\$9 per class-session for the first child in the family  
(\$36 per usual month)

\$7 each additional child from the same household

Any families needing some flexibility with the fees can contact Jessica for additional opportunities to help with the program.