

A Block Rotation for Main Lessons in Waldorf Schools

Notes:

- This block rotation does not include class plays or class trips.
- What subjects are taught depends upon many factors. No such block rotation should be followed dogmatically. Ultimately the teacher needs to decide what is best for a particular group of students.
- This is written from the perspective of schools in the U.S. Schools in other countries should alter these blocks accordingly, especially with history and geography blocks.
- Of course, there are many more topics that are taught both in the skills classes and in main lesson. The list here only touches upon the major themes.
- Although it may not be listed below as a separate block, “grammar” is an important topic to integrate into the main lesson topics, beginning in third grade.
- The length of the blocks is generally 4-6 weeks for grades 1 & 2, and 3-4 weeks for grades 3-8.
- The order of the blocks may be very different from what is listed here.

First Grade Blocks

1. Form Drawing
2. Language Arts (Letters)
3. Math (Quality of Numbers)
4. Language Arts (Letters)
5. Math (Four Mathematical Processes)
6. Language Arts (Letters)
7. Math (“From Counting to Math”)
8. Language Arts (Possibly Lower Case Letters)

Second Grade Blocks

1. Language Arts (Legends and Saints)
2. Math (Place Value & Times Tables)
3. Language Arts (Fables)
4. Math (Intro to Time & Times Tables)
5. Language Arts (Legends and Saints)
6. Language Arts (Fables)
7. Math (“Bringing it All Together”)
8. Language Arts (Legends and Saints)

Third Grade Blocks

1. Language Arts (Old Testament Stories)
2. Practical Skills (Farming)
3. Math (Carrying & Borrowing)
4. Practical Skills (Clothing & Shelter)
5. Language Arts (Old Testament Stories)
6. Math (Measurement)
7. Language Arts (Old Testament Stories)
8. Math (Vertical Multiplication)
9. Practical Skills (various activities/projects)

Fourth Grade Blocks

1. Language Arts (Norse Myths)
2. Math (Intro to Fractions)
3. Geography (Local & Regional/Map Making)
4. Math (Addition & Subtraction of Fractions)
5. Language Arts (Norse Myths)
6. Science (Zoology - Man and Animal)
7. Math (Long Div and Mult & Div of Fractions)
8. Language Arts (Norse Myths)
9. History (State/Region)

Fifth Grade Blocks

1. Science (Botany I)
2. History (Ancient India, Persia)
3. Math (Freehand Geometry & 5th Grade Fractions)
4. Geography (North America)
5. History (Mesopotamia, Egypt)
6. Math (Decimal Fractions & Metric)
7. Science: (Botany II)
8. History (Ancient Greece)
9. Math (Wonder of Number)

Sixth Grade Blocks

1. Math (Geometric Drawing)
2. History (Roman)
3. Science (Geology)
4. History (Medieval)
5. Science (Astronomy)
6. Math (Business Math & Intro to Percents)
7. Science (Physics)
8. Geography (Central and South America)
9. History (Buddha, Christ, Mohammad)

Seventh Grade Blocks

1. History (The Renaissance)
2. Science (Inorganic Chemistry)
3. Geography (Africa)
4. History (Age of Exploration)
5. Math (Algebra & Geometry)
6. Language Arts (Creative Writing)
7. Science (Physics)
8. Science (Physiology)
9. Options: separate Algebra & Geometry, The Astronomers (Brahe, Galileo, Kepler, Copernicus), another history block, project-based block

Eighth Grade Blocks

1. History (American & French Revolution)
2. Science (Physics)
3. History (American History: Civil War forward)
4. Science (Anatomy)
5. Geometry (Locs & Stereometry)
6. Geography (Asia)
7. Science (Meteorology)
8. Science (Organic Chemistry)
9. Options: short story, number bases, algebra