WALDORF
SCHOOL OF BALTIMORE







MATH

FELT IN THE BODY, BUILT BY HAND, PROVEN ON PAPER

UNDERSTANDING, NOT JUST ANSWERS

Children first meet numbers with their whole bodies: clapping and stepping times tables, jumping rope to a count, measuring flour for bread. From there they move to pictures and stories, then to abstract thinking, learning both how to solve a problem and why the method works.

Daily practice and main lesson blocks bring ideas back each year at a deeper level. In middle school, small groups match each student's readiness. Algebra begins in seventh grade, and students take on Algebra I by the end of eighth.

MATH IN THE HANDS

Knitting means counting stitches and rows. Woodshop asks for careful measurement. Baking turns fractions into bread.


KNITTING


WOODSHOP


BAKING

> *In mathematics, even algebra reveals a deeper truth: a single problem may have multiple solutions, reflecting the broader reality that different perspectives can coexist.*
>
> **From the WSB Grade 8 curriculum**

THE MATH JOURNEY

● Children's Garden ● Elementary ● Middle School

PRE-K & K	Counting in songs and circle games · Sorting, pouring and measuring while baking · Pattern and rhythm
GRADE 1	The qualities of numbers · All four operations through story and movement · Introduction to skip counting · Odd and even numbers
GRADE 2	Place value · Mental arithmetic and word problems · Math facts through movement games
GRADE 3	Time, money and measurement · Regrouping and long division · Math in cooking and building
GRADE 4	Introduction to fractions · Review of the four operations · Mapping the school and neighborhood through scale drawing
GRADE 5	Fractions, mixed numbers and decimals · Freehand geometric drawing
GRADE 6	Business math and budgeting · Percentages and interest · Geometric construction
GRADE 7	Algebra begins · Ratios · Small groups matched to readiness · Proportion and perspective in drawing
GRADE 8	Algebra I · Platonic solids · Coordinate geometry · Revolutions in mathematical thought

"Educating and inspiring children to think, feel, and act with depth, imagination and purpose"

WALDORF
SCHOOL OF BALTIMORE







SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

OUR WOODS ARE THE FIRST LABORATORY

OBSERVE FIRST, EXPLAIN SECOND

Waldorf science starts with the phenomenon itself. Before a formula or a definition, students observe closely and ask:

- What happened?
- What exactly did I observe?
- Under what conditions does it appear?
- How does it connect to what I already know?

Only then do they reason toward the principle behind it, recording their thinking in words and drawings. Formal science begins in sixth grade, and by eighth grade, experiments, independent research and group projects ask students to test their ideas and draw their own conclusions.

A GREEN RIBBON SCHOOL

WSB is a U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School and a Certified Sustainable MAEOE Green School. Environmental learning runs through every grade.

Forest Kindergarten · Gardening · Composting · Community chickens · Two campus beehives · Pollinator gardens · Foraging · Watershed studies · Rain gardens · Native tree planting · Invasive plant removal · Tapping trees for syrup

DID YOU KNOW?

For five years running, our middle school has taken first place in Tower of Power, the Johns Hopkins Whiting School of Engineering's Engineers Week competition. Students qualify against more than 25 peer middle schools, then win the in-person event against the finalists and undergraduate teams.

THE SCIENCE JOURNEY

PRE-K & K	Woodland walks in all weather · Seasons, seeds and water
GRADE 1	Nature stories and woodland exploration
GRADE 2	Nature study through fables, legends and seasonal walks
GRADE 3	Farming, gardening and house building
GRADE 4	Zoology: "Human and Animal" · Local geography
GRADE 5	Botany · Pollinator study at our hives
GRADE 6	Geology: rocks, gems and minerals · Physics · Astronomy
GRADE 7	Chemistry, physics, astronomy and physiology · Research writing
GRADE 8	Physics, meteorology, hydrodynamics, carbon chemistry · Anatomy · Research every unit

> *The focus of Waldorf education on the multiplicity of the senses and ways of experiencing the world furthers the creative mind, be it in artistic or scientific endeavors.*
>
> **Ruth Goldstein, Ph.D.**, WSB Class of 1993

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