

*Montessori Primary*

# MONTESSORI PRIMARY

Curriculum Integration 3



*Addla Montessori*

The Fundamental Needs of Man

### The Story of Og

Long, long ago in the Stone Age when men lived in caves, there was a little boy called Og. Life in those days was very dangerous, because huge woolly mammoths and sabre-toothed tigers roamed the forests and the hillside. Og's mummy and daddy always tried to keep Og close to them so that he would not meet danger. (**security**) One warm summer s day Og's mummy and daddy took him with them to go and collect wild berries on the hillside to eat.

Stay close to us, Og's mummy warned him - but Og did not really listen. Og started to pick the berries, eating as many as he could. Soon he saw a big patch of berries a little way away. Og wandered over to them. He picked some. They were big and juicy and he picked them quickly and put them straight into his mouth. They were delicious. Just ahead he saw some even larger berries. He went on and picked these berries. They were even better. Scrumptious! Og ate as many of them as he could. Then he started to feel rather sick, which was not surprising - he had eaten too many!. Og looked up. The sun was going down, and it was starting to get dark. His mummy and daddy were nowhere to be seen. He turned around and tried to find his way back to where he had left them - but they were not there. He called them loudly. but they did not come.

Now the sun had gone in, and it was getting very, very dark. I need somewhere to **shelter** for the night, Og said to himself. It will get cold and there will be wild animals around. Og walked on up the hillside and noticed a hole - yes, it led into a cave. He climbed into the hole, and found himself in a large space.

## Curriculum Integration 3

He could not see very well because it was so dark. I know, he said to himself, I will make a fire, it will keep me warm and I will be able to see around. Og went outside again and got a few sticks. He had seen his father and mother rub flints together to make sparks. Og felt all over the floor of the cave, he found 1 flint, but that was not enough. He felt and he felt in the darkness. Here was another flint. Og rubbed the flints together. It was very hard work. At last there was a little spark, and Og used it to light a piece of straw. Soon Og had a fire with the sticks he had gathered. Now he could see around the cave, and he was not quite so cold, but his teeth were still chattering. I need some warmer **clothes**, thought Og.

Og looked around the cave. In one corner he saw a huge lump. At first he thought it was a huge stone, but he took a closer look. It was a great fat Grisly Bear. Is it dead?, thought Og. He took a stick, poked it, and ran and hid. The lump did not move. He did the same thing again. What lovely thick warm fur, that bear has. It would make some clothes and keep me warm. Og had seen his mother and father skin a bear. He took the flints and hit them together to make them sharp. It was not easy. A small piece came off and hit him on the face - it hurt quite badly.

At last the flint tool was ready. Og started to take the skin off the bear. It was very smelly and had to do. At last Og finished. He had enough fur to make himself a sort of coat and a piece left over for a blanket. Og settled down to sleep. He could not sleep, he was so thirsty. Og searched around. He found an icicle dripping. He made a cup with his hands, and drank. It took a long time to get the water.

## Curriculum Integration 3

Og made his way back to the fire, snuggled under the blanket and fell fast asleep. After some hours he woke up. He heard a noise. The fire had gone out and he could not see what the noise was. The noise seemed to be coming closer. Og was very frightened. He wanted his mummy and daddy. He did not want to be alone. He wanted to be with other people. The noise seemed to be coming nearer and nearer. Og grabbed the flint and a stick. He tied the flint to the top of the stick with a piece of skin from the bear. Now Og had something to **defend or protect** himself with. Og prayed to the Great Spirit of his tribe (religion) that the fierce beast would not get closer. Was it a woolly mammoth, or a sabre-toothed tiger? His heart was beating loudly. Og listened again as there came another roar. The sound seemed to be fading further away into the distance- his prayer had been answered.

By now Og was completely exhausted. He fell fast asleep. A few hours later he woke up. He could see around now. The sun had risen, and was streaming in through the hole in the wall of the cave. Og rubbed his tummy. He felt very hungry. Now Og had seen his mummy and daddy cut pieces of flesh from dead animals with their flint tools and roast it over a fire, but the fire was out and Og needed **food** NOW. He was ready for his breakfast.

Og remembered the delicious berries he had eaten the day before and ran outside to find them. There they were again, juicy and sweet. Og ate and ate. Suddenly he heard a sound. Someone was calling his name. It was his mother's voice. Og forgot all about the berries and ran towards the sound, and straight into his mother's arms.  
(love)

## Curriculum Integration 3

Og's mother gave Og a big hug, and made him promise to stay close to her from now on. She took him back to their own cave. His brothers and sisters and friends all came out to welcome him back **(social acceptance)**. They wanted to know about his adventure. Og took a stone and a lump of chalk lying on the ground, and drew pictures of his adventure – pictures of the hillside and berries, the cave, the bear and the fire he had made. His mother said that they were the best cave paintings she had ever seen done by a child! **(art)** Og proudly showed everyone the spear that he had made in the cave with the flint and stick.

After his adventure Og always stayed close to his mummy and daddy whenever he went out. When he grew up he told the story to his children and took them to see the pictures that he had drawn as a record of what had happened on the walls of the cave. He told them of how frightened he had been of the sounds of the woolly mammoth and the sabre toothed tiger, how he had prayed, and kept himself safe **(and the Great Spirit had kept him safe)** and warm. He warned them of the dangers of not staying close to others.

Written By Marianne Clarkson

Kent and Sussex Montessori Center

# The Fundamental Needs

Human beings have two kinds of basic needs: **Physical and Spiritual**.

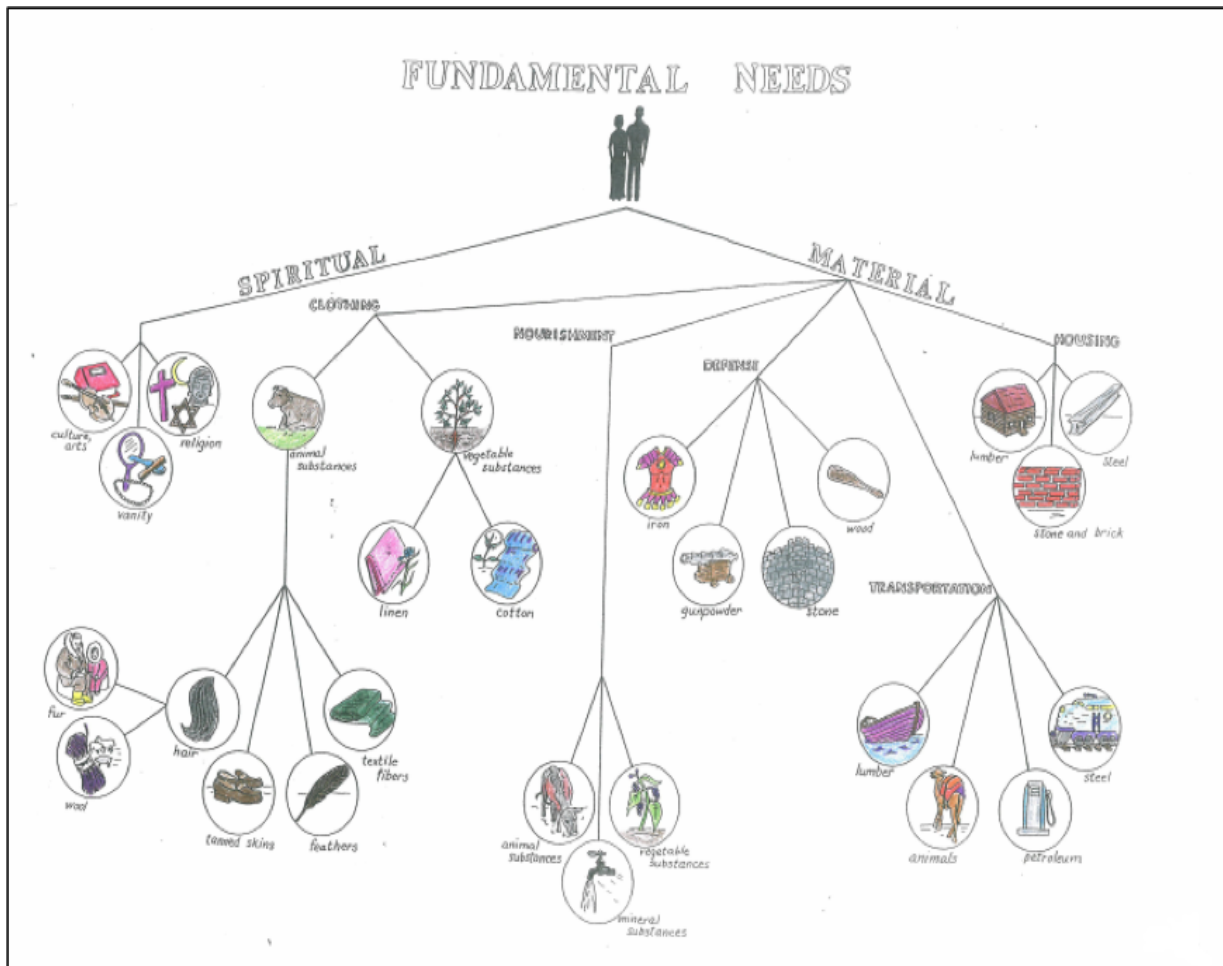
The five (5) physical needs of human beings include

- sufficient food
- appropriate clothing
- shelter
- defence
- transportation.

The four (4) spiritual needs human beings include

- love
- arts/music
- **decoration** (to improve and embellish one's environment)
- religion:

## Curriculum Integration 3



Use the chart to discuss the following:

What kind of things does a person need? Food and toys may be the common answers.

Imagine if a person was stuck on an island, what would he need to survive?

Talk about the fact that people who lived a long time ago and people all over the world, have the same basic needs. Human beings need to eat, clothe themselves, defend themselves, transport themselves, shelter themselves, these are physical needs. Man also has other needs which are spiritual and they include, art, religion, beauty and decoration of space and self.

## Curriculum Integration 3

Look at the chart and continue discussing the ways these changes have changed through time.

Use Reference books and Montessori Cards if available.

Children can do a lot of research and projects based on the Fundamental needs, looking at stages in the progress of civilization.

Studies can be done vertically: that is by subject : Shelter, food, religion, transportation etc.

Or Horizontally: which looks at one age and studies the Fundamental needs or humans during a specific time.

Fundamental needs of Humans in Modern Times

The growth of technology, Water, Electricity, waste and recycling

Children love this work and it flows into several subject areas.