

Early Childhood Montessori Curriculum

Ages 3-6 years

Compliments of:
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Montessori Curriculum

A rich supplement of natural and physical sciences, cultural studies, fine arts and perceptual motor training to enrich the child's daily life and spark interest for his or her future studies.

Practical Life:

The Practical Life section lays the foundation for all the other work to be done in the classroom. The activities are everyday tasks that a child needs to learn to master the care of self and care of the environment. The activities are presented to the child in such a way that concentration, coordination, independence and order are developed.

As time goes by, practical life exercises evolve from care of self into care of others and care of the environment, which lead to activities such as science experimentation and discoveries.

Practical Life Examples:

Pouring	Patterning
Sorting	Social graces
Polishing	Perceptual Motor skills
Sewing exercises	Tracing
Hand washing	Buttoning, tying
Fruit slicing	Snapping
Vegetable slicing	Velcro
Flower arranging	Zippering
Cutting/pasting	Table scrubbing
Folding	Sweeping
Matching & grading	

Sensorial:

The goal of the Montessori Sensorial section is to educate the child's senses. This curriculum area contains Montessori-specific materials that help the child refine his or her experience of sight, sound, touch, taste, and smell. In addition, the materials of this section are modeled on scientifically-based concepts, such as metric system dimensions or algebraic formulas. Sensory experience with materials such as these is the child's first step toward understanding the abstract concepts they represent.

Sensorial Examples:

Pink tower
Knobbed cylinders
Red Rods
Geometric cabinet
Geometric solids
Binomial cube
Baric tablets
Bell material
Smelling bottles
Broad stair

Knobless cylinders
Color tablets
Constructive triangles
Binomial & trinomial
cubes
Fabric matching
Thermal bottles
Sound cylinders
Smooth & rough boards

Mathematics:

Mathematics is introduced individually as the child demonstrates interest and readiness. We match each child's ability to the appropriate materials so that his or her learning experiences are positive, rewarding and provide optimum learning at each stage of development.

Introduction to mathematics begins with a clear, sensorial impression derived from manipulation of objects, movement and activity on the part of the child.

As each math concept is internalized, the child weans him of herself naturally from concrete objects and progresses to the abstract level that is required for advanced math curriculum. This method of instruction, devised by the genius of Dr. Montessori, has proven to be successful in teaching math skills while enabling the child to enjoy working in this subject.

Each child benefits from this concrete introduction to abstract concepts such as decimal systems identity, commutative and associative properties, and cube vs. square concepts. Students work with the math operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division using Montessori Golden Bead material. The success that the child meets here inspires confidence and a desire to seek out future learning experiences.

Mathematic Examples:

Linear counting with beads
Skip counting with beads
Stamp game exercises
Addition strip board
Subtraction strip board
Red and Blues number rods
Sandpaper numerals
Spindle boxes

Cards & counters
Golden bead material
Ten & teen boards
Bead frame
Mult. Board
Division board
Fractions
Equivalences

Language:

The language program begins with readiness activities. It is imperative that each child be allowed to progress to a state of physical and mental readiness before formal language exercises are introduced. The child experiences matching cards, stories, poetry, listening games and other preparatory activities.

As the teacher ascertains the child's readiness, he or she is introduced to language through our phonetic approach. Language is taught through a variety of multi-sensory activities: visual, auditory, tactile and kinetics. This ensures success by providing the appropriate experience for each child's individual learning patterns. As the child differentiates and recognizes sounds, he begins the process of word building and then blending sounds into meaningful reading.

Readiness Activities:

Gross motor activities
Fine motor activities
Practical life activities
Sensorial activities

Metal insets
Perceptual games
Matching activities
Sequencing cards

Reading Activities:

Sandpaper letters
Object boxes
Classified cards
Movable alphabet
Phonetic series – pink, blue, green

Language baskets
Farm-grammar intro
Spelling sequences
Non-phonetic
Phonetic

Culture Studies:

The topic of Culture Studies integrates and emphasizes a region or population's geography, history, music, art, etc. The children study different areas of the world, and experience concrete examples of that area's language, literature, dress, food, artwork and music, both past and present. This increasingly important area introduces the child to our planet's great diversity of people.

Geography:

Globes
Maps
Landform pans
Art

Food
Clothing
Music
Language
Celebrations

Music & Movement:

Musical instruments
Rhythm instruments
Scarves

Creative movement
Parachutes
Balls

Botany:

Parts of plants
Needs of plants
Plant care

Flower dissection
Leaf shapes
Seasons

Zoology:

Living vs. non-living
Vertebrates/invertebrates
Fish

Amphibians
Reptiles
Birds

Physical Science:

Matter
Magnetism
Electricity
Heat
Sound

Light
Gravity
Structures
Mechanics
Chemistry
Magic tricks