



Montessori Children's Room
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Toddlers | Pre-School | Kindergarten
A Tradition Of **Excellence** Since 1968



OUR MISSION

The Montessori Children's Room is dedicated to helping each child achieve his potential by nurturing and stimulating that unique union of mind and body through academics, music, drama, art, movement and practical life skills, directed by dedicated staff, in a setting of rustic serenity.





OUR HISTORY

The Montessori Children's Room was founded in 1968. The center grew from a group of parents who banded together to provide the materials and atmosphere in which their children could grow into warm people who reach for excellence in all things. Two years later the school moved to its present location on Old Route 22, next to Whippoorwill Park. The program & facilities have been continually expanded and improved to better serve the needs of our children. From its humble beginnings, the Montessori Children's Room now provides a quality education to a student body of approximately 150.

Montessori Children's Room circa 1968





OUR PHILOSOPHY

The Montessori Philosophy of Education was developed by Dr. Maria Montessori, the first woman to graduate from the university of Rome Medical School. She became interested in education while treating mentally challenged children at the University's psychiatric clinic. Gradually, Dr. Montessori realized that these children were capable of learning much more than it was generally believed. Her teaching brought about remarkable results and set the foundation for the Montessori approach. Dr. Montessori began her work with children of normal intelligence in 1907 when she was invited to organize schools in a reconstructed slum area of San Lorenzo, Italy. Her work was so successful that when she arrived in the United States at the end of 1913, she was heralded as "a woman who revolutionized the educational system of the world." Dr. Montessori died in 1952.





Classes

TODDLERS

Warm, caring Montessori certified teachers guide the children in a program that is geared towards the individual child's developmental stage. The classroom is set up with different areas including practical life, sensorial, beginning math and language, as well as blocks, puzzles and library areas. Emphasis is placed on developing language skills and interpersonal relationships. The children learn to respect the rights of others, to choose their own work and be responsible for returning it to the shelf. They participate in small group activities and become independent. Indoor and outdoor activities are designed to improve large and small motor skills.





Classes

PRE-SCHOOL

The classes for the 3 to 5 year old children are staffed by Montessori certified teachers. The entire program of learning is purposefully structured. The children spend time with materials that help to develop concentration, coordination and the work habits necessary for the more advanced exercises they will perform at age five. Children move from work with shapes to letters and numbers, and then onto simple word reading and math problems. History, nature, geography and sciences are explored in increasing depth with each year, beginning with simple stories, pictures and art projects for three year olds. The children learn to think before they act, to consider others and to be safe.





Classes

KINDERGARTEN

In a small group setting, the children in this kindergarten / first grade class work individually, at their own level and pace, in reading, writing and math. To ease the transition into their next school environment, the children participate in a writers workshop, have weekly spelling tests (at different levels), assigned seats and some group lessons.

Geography and sciences are presented through hands on materials and experiments. The children learn about artists, composers and musical instruments, do sports, and have fun.





Curriculum

PRACTICAL LIFE

The young child is attracted to activities that give independence and control over his/her own life. In the Montessori classroom children practice such activities as pouring, hand washing and polishing. The purpose of these activities is to develop concentration and attention to detail. The child finishes each task and puts away all materials before going on to another activity.





Curriculum **SENSORIAL**

The child explores dimension, shape, color, texture, weight, aroma, taste, pitch and their relationships through a series of exercises called the sensorial materials. These materials isolate various qualities so that the child can experience each one individually. The materials are largely self correcting so the child can accomplish the exercises alone. Moreover, they are structured, building on what has been previously learned. A sense of order is found in these materials and the child joyfully learns that his/her environment also has order.





Curriculum

LANGUAGE

Each of the separate skills involved in the mastery of reading and writing is pursued by the child at his/her own pace. Exercises include rhyming games, matching objects to pictures, sandpaper letters and language cards. Montessori introduces grammar, geography, geology, biology, art and music to children. At this stage children joyfully absorb many difficult concepts when they meet them in concrete forms.





Curriculum

MATHEMATICS

The Montessori mathematical materials isolate each concept and introduce it to the child in a concrete form using manipulative equipment. The child first learns to associate each numerical symbol with the proper quantity, progressing one step at a time to a more abstract understanding of the concepts of arithmetic.





CULTURAL SUBJECTS

Montessori introduces art, geography, geology, botany, biology and music to children. At this stage children joyfully absorb many difficult concepts when they meet them in concrete forms.



WHAT DO CHILDREN DO IN A MONTESSORI CLASS?

Step into our classrooms and see the children, each working at his/her own work. In the toddler class a little one carefully picks up big beads with salad tongs or sprays water on a mirror and rubs it dry.

Two pre-kindergartners work together at the art table. A four year old carefully places number stamps in order while a little one watches in awe. Others lovingly scrub a rock or a doll, pour and spoon beans and balls, or carefully explore magnets or floating objects.

Watch the teachers at work: a teacher squats down to comfort a sad child, another observes the class, making notes on developing friendships or the work selected. Later the teacher will lead the children in churning cream into butter and then spreading the butter on crackers for snack. They talk about the difference in color, taste, smell and feel at each step.

In the elementary class the teacher prepares work suggestions for each child. She leads a discussion on an exciting science or art topic. The children choose work inspired by the discussion.

There is no answer to the question "Why Montessori?", but maybe we can come close when we see the light of discovery in a child's eye's.



WHAT IS MONTESSORI?

Montessori is a special way for children and adults to be together. Every aspect of the experience is planned to help children become confident, capable, creative, caring and happy people who are a delight to be with.

The Montessori philosophy influences all aspects of the child's experience, from the design and selection of materials, to the selection and education of the teacher. All activities are carefully planned to allow each child to fulfill his/her own potential.

The variety of materials to explore, the teachers' quiet demonstration of their possibilities, and the time available for each child to watch the older children, all work together to help the child develop the courage to try new things.

Children are encouraged to thoroughly explore an activity. They quickly learn to examine a problem carefully, seeking the possibilities...discovering the solution. We see the maturing child's confidence in his own abilities grow. At an early age the child discovers the scientist's delight in solving problems, the mathematician's delight with patterns, the artist's delight in creation, the sociologist's and psychologist's delight in understanding people and the leader's delight in getting things done with people.



Program

SUMMER CAMP

Set in a serene environment, Summer Camp at Montessori is a time to discover the excitement that only a summer program can provide. It's a time to try new activities, play new games and make new friends.

Activities include :

Daily Water Play | Soccer | Dance | Gymnastics |
Yoga | Art & Crafts | Visiting Artists | Pony Rides |
Petting Zoo | Fun and Rides at our annual
summer carnival!

