## Engaged Learning







The young child is naturally drawn to the activities of everyday life. These activities are primarily centered on fostering coordination, control of movement, concentration and independence. As children happily repeat these activities, refining their coordination and experiencing success, they become more independent in their ability and desire to connect further with their environment. Lessons in this area include cooking, dusting and washing in the classroom, supporting fine motor control, motor planning and a sense of purpose and belonging. Additional manipulatives such as puzzles and dressing help develop fine motor skills and the child's abilities. A great beginning step toward self-esteem is finally getting your shoes on!

### Indoors and Out

It is during the toddler years that children experience a critical period for the development of language. Therefore, the classroom and Teacher purposefully support learning new vocabulary, correct pronunciation, grammar and syntax. Special language materials include: unique objects, vocabulary enrichment cards, finger-plays and books. Some children speak their first words, phrases and sentences at school and others may enhance their enunciation, comprehension and vocabulary.

Each classroom has an outdoor garden for making discoveries and connecting to the outdoor world. Students take lessons outside or enjoy a beautiful day watering the plants. Because children need a variety of learning environments to explore, gardens are directly connected to the classroom for easy and frequent access. Children also visit the playground daily.



Springmont's mission is to provide a learning environment where diversity of thought and global perspective empower students to be inquisitive, knowledgeable, independent, compassionate and effective.

#### Accredited by

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS)

#### **Recognized by**

The Association Montessori Internationale (AMI)

#### **Memberships**

Atlanta Area Association of Independent Schools (AAAIS) Georgia Independent School Association (GISA) National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) North American Montessori Teachers' Association (NAMTA)





wonder what I'll discover today?



• At Springmont, the Toddler Program is the first step in a

life-long love of learning. At this age, a child is naturally curious and eager to learn. Our highly experienced and trained Faculty and Staff are ready to guide your child on a journey of discovery using a full complement of specially designed learning materials in a safe and beautiful environment. This experience will fuel his independence, interests and confidence that will serve him for a lifetime.



Toddler Program (18 months - 3 years)

Spring ATLANTA'S FIRST MONTESSORI SCHOOL



AZZA, DESIGNER, AGE 2

# Beauty, Baking and Budding Social Skills

All furniture in the Toddler class is specifically designed for promoting the young child's 'I can do it' attitude. The children enjoy working and eating at tables that fit their size. The child's sense of order is developed in a carefully prepared learning environment where everything children engage respectfully with each other, fostering a sense of accomplishment. They cultivate a sense of sequencing and completing tasks as they develop the ability to put one activity away before beginning another.

Often the Toddler community is the first experience children have with other children of their own age and abilities. Learning how to interact in respectful ways is fundamental to the Toddler community and the child's future experiences in the larger world. Grace and Courtesy are modeled by the Teacher and Assistant. "Please" and "thank you" or,

"no thank you" is practiced often in teachable moments. Redirection is used to encourage positive behavior in the environment.

Through consistent school experiences, has a place. The children care for their classroom the adults and the materials in the environment. Helping each other, offering a snack, pouring a drink for a friend and consideration of others are all parts of building relationships with each other and with the adults.

> Children learn toileting skills as part of their classroom experience. To aid their independence and success, children wear indoor shoes, t-shirts and training pants. The room is kept warm so children can dress minimally for successful toileting. Wet clothes are easily changed as children develop physical awareness, timing and success.



# Partnerships



Parents and Teachers work as partners in support of the young child. Communication is an important aspect of that partnership therefore parents have access to Teachers via email and phone. Teachers communicate with parents via class letters to share unique information about classroom happenings. Conferences are scheduled twice a year to discuss student progress, and written reports summarizing ogress are provided twice a year.

### Creativity and the Arts

Exposure to the arts begins in the Toddler program. Children choose to paint or draw following their own preferences of color, shapes and styles. Paintings hang at the child's eye level to enhance the classroom and expose the young child to artistic style. Children sing with their Teacher and can be accompanied by guitar or violin. Teachers often sing to gather children together.

As Toddlers progress to the Primary classrooms, they experience quiet, harmonious environments carefully designed for children to "learn by doing" with a wide variety of research-based learning materials that help foster individual growth and a love of learning that lasts a lifetime.







The engaged teaching staff helped my child reach his full potential at every plase of his growth from a toddles to elementary student, while also preparing Rim to be a global citizen who has compassion for all others and who embraces diversity.



Andrea Gooldy and Chris Huff,