

Montessori Is....



- A research based comprehensive system of education with a hundred-year history of success with diverse populations of students in schools around the world.
- The essentials for success include-
 - Specially educated teachers credentialed through teacher preparation programs accredited by the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education, recognized by the US Department of Education.
 - Mixed age students grouped by a deep understanding of child development in a specially prepared classroom environment and curriculum that is developmentally appropriate at each level infant & toddler through high school.
 - A comprehensive curriculum, using specially designed, research based materials.
 - An extended work period of 3 hours in which students receive differentiated instruction through individual and small group lessons and can explore concepts, and skills through independently chosen activities and projects.



Montessori Is....

- **Child Centered**- the curriculum and lessons fit the child. Observation by the teacher provides constant assessment of each child's strengths, challenges, and needs. The teacher can guide each child with the just-right lesson, in the just-right way, and support growth, development, and success at each child's rate of learning and mastery.
- **Following the Child**- This constant observation by the teacher guides her understanding of each child and his or her interests. Children develop confidence, motivation, and great delight in their accomplishments and in what they are learning.
- **Hands-On**- Children learn best through doing. Recent research confirms the powerful connection between hand and brain. The developmentally appropriate Montessori materials at every level give students the opportunity to learn advanced skills and concepts with deep understanding rather than rote memorization.



- **Whole Child**- Montessori education is attentive to all areas of growth. Special lessons, activities, and opportunities guide each child's emotional and social development. Montessori "kids" are competent and confident. They learn to interact in positive ways with peers and adults, and how to resolve problems that arise. They learn to respect themselves, others, their community, and the world.



Montessori At Home....

- **Your child needs-** to feel respected, accepted and an important part of your family. Recent research shows that children who have chores at home are more competent learners. Children 18 months- high school should help the family with meaningful chores. Children want to be part of making decisions- for the two year it might be choosing what book you will read (from 2-3 choices), for the six- year old it might be which vegetable to help prepare for dinner, for the middle schooler it might be which after school activities to participate in, and by the end of high school which college or employment possibility to pursue.
- **Your child wants your positive attention-** to feel a sense of belonging and love. Your child wants to play with you, take a walk with you to watch the squirrels, or birds, and join you in activities like washing the car, or cooking dinner.
- **Read-** and talk about what you are reading. Have a conversation together and listen really than tell. The number one thing parents can do to contribute to academic success is to read to your child through his school years.
- **Learn more about Montessori-** attend parent meetings, plan to observe in your child's classroom, share conversations with your child's teacher, get involved in school and Montessori activities.