

Montessori North School

Joy of Learning & Love of Life since 1983

Curriculum

Montessori Avenues

Through several years of work with children in her *Casa dei Bambini*, Dr. Maria Montessori developed a unique philosophy of working with young children and designed numerous exciting activities for them. Dr. Montessori felt that the goal of early childhood education should not be to fill the child with facts from a pre-selected course of studies but rather to cultivate the child's own natural desire to learn.

At Montessori North School, we take inspiration from her work and follow her teaching philosophy. What we hope to accomplish, through our curriculum avenues listed below, is to deliver children to themselves by giving them Dr. Montessori's *Keys to the Universe*, as well as nurturing their social and emotional confidence to go out into the world to use them.

Practical Life

Practical life activities assist the child in developing concentration, fine motor skills, hand and eye coordination, and furthermore instills a sense of confidence, and self-esteem in the child.

Care of self, care of environment, development of social relationship, grace and courtesy are all part of practical life activities, designed to satisfy the child's inner desire for independence and self-help.

Sensorial

Sensorial activities are designed to broaden all five senses of the child.

The clear and simple construction of the sensorial material appeals to the child and assists him or her to develop, broaden and refine his or her sense of perception of color, shape, size, form, sound, touch, taste and smell. The clear and simple construction of the sensorial materials appeals to the child.

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Language

Language is taught to the child phonetically, enhancing his or her comprehension of phonetic sounds and its compilation in different word forms. Reading and writing skills are developed through sounds of which speech is made.

I-Spy games, sand paper letters, puppet shows, talking stick, stories, and logical puzzles are all used to make the child interested in language and broaden his vocabulary.

Mathematics

Mathematics is taught to the child with concrete materials which allow the child to first experience mathematical concepts concretely. The materials then help the child to make the transition from concrete to abstract with ease.

The concept of numerals and quantity is taught to the children by taking them through a wonderful journey from concrete to the abstract and a natural progression of sequentially graded materials.

Culture

Culture activities encompass history, geography, astronomy, botany, zoology and physical sciences.

Concrete materials such as puzzle maps, leaf cabinets, and animal classification puzzles are presented to children which enable them to explore and classify our wondrous world and understand their own relationship to the cosmos.

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Enrichment

In addition to the core Montessori curriculum avenues, Montessori North School has also developed an enriched curriculum which includes the following:

French

At Montessori North School, we have a very strong French language learning program, where children engage in daily French lessons. The emphasis at such a primary level is to learn basic vocabulary and conversational skills.

Daily classroom conversation in French is encouraged to expand the child's vocabulary and language comprehension. Games, songs, pictures and real objects are used to make the study of French interesting and enjoyable.

Our graduates who have gone through a full 3 year learning cycle with us are completely ready to go to French immersion public schools and be successful at it.

Children's Yoga

At Montessori North School, Children's Yoga classes take place weekly and are conducted by a certified children's yoga instructor. These classes are a wonderful opportunity for children to grow healthy habits in a non-competitive environment.

The benefits of Yoga include a positive attitude towards healthy living, development of concentration and flexibility, and most importantly an understanding of inner peace.

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Music & Movement

At Montessori North School, children enjoy a variety of music & movement activities daily. Music is enjoyed through daily circle time, songs, poems and musical instruments while Movement includes drama, dance, games and Dr. Montessori's traditional walking-on-line activity.

Arts & Crafts

At Montessori North School, we believe in exposing children to real art experiences using different art mediums. Children participate not only in engaging crafts, but also have the opportunity to develop their own imagination in creative art explorations which emphasis the child's unique artistic ability.

Outdoor Play & Gardening

Did you know that you can improve your child's cognitive abilities with physical activity? Studies continue to show that the brain's ability to learn is improved during and after physical activity.

At Montessori North School, we have a large fenced-in playground for outdoor play. This helps children develop their gross motor skills and further develop a sense of team spirit and fair play.

We also have the beauty of nature right at our doorstep. We foster an appreciation for nature through gardening activities.

Field Trips

Field trips enhance our curriculum at the Montessori North School and provide opportunities for the children to explore the world around us. These experiences leave a deep impression on the child and help build his or her overall personality.