

"Education begins at birth and never ends. If the children's developmental needs are met, children will be able to maximize their potentials, whatever they may be."

Maria Montessori



## The Montessori Kindergarten classroom

The Kindergarten year is the time when many of the earlier lessons come together and become a permanent part of the young child's understanding. Through the Montessori method your child started as a novice grew to an apprentice and now their Kindergarten year they become a leader. The Kindergarten curriculum is carefully structured and integrated to demonstrate the connections among the different areas. The Kindergarten year highlights critical thinking, composition, and research based projects. In Montessori your child continues to set the pace for his or her own education and developmental growth.

The Montessori teacher's goal is to guide and facilitate. Acting as a guide for the students involves more than using certain words and particular tone. It also involves awareness, attitude, body language, and actions that reflect the principles of the Montessori method.



Geography / Earth Science



Life Science / Parts of an Orange



"We especially need imagination in science. It is not all mathematics, nor all logic, but it is somewhat beauty and poetry"

Maria Montessori

### The Montessori Kindergarten Classroom Areas

Language Arts: Language Arts builds on the foundation laid in Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten. This sets the stage for the children to master skills such as reading, writing, spelling, dictionary skills, poetry, penmanship and handwriting, and parts of speech and grammar. Each skill builds to another and forms a solid base which leads to ease of integration with other subjects. Writing a research project on whales or explaining how a math equation is worked out is easily achieved as a result.

Mathematics: There is nothing in our world that does not in some way relate to mathematics. Being able to apply mathematic skills in other areas such as language, art and sensorial are most beneficial. The four operations are taught (addition, subtraction, division and multiplication) in detail building on skills learned in preschool. A fair portion of the math curriculum is devoted to Geometry and related lessons including use of the Geometry Cabinet, Constructive Triangle Boxes, Nomenclature Cards and multiplication and division. Also included in the child's studies will be fractions and factors of multiples.

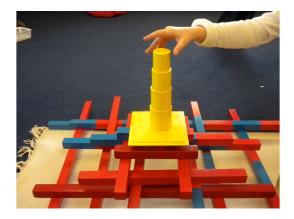
**Physical and Cultural Geography:** The earth is our home, but what do we really know about it? In our Geography curriculum we look at the formation of the Earth, its place in the Solar System, its atmosphere, weather and seasons and its various land and water features. We also explore ways of representing these features through the use of maps; finding our way with lines of longitude and latitude and a compass. A major component of this curriculum is the study of continents, countries of the world, and culture.

**Five Great Lessons/ Cosmic Education/ Peace:** The Five Great Lessons are designed to provide an understanding of the history of the universe with a focus on humankind's place in the continuing story. The lessons are divided into five unique parts: A. The Story of the Universe; B. Life Comes to Earth; C. The Coming of Humans; D. The Story of Writing (language); E. The Story of Numbers (mathematics). Cosmic education in the Montessori curriculum sets the stage to develop more caring and peaceful citizens.

Botany Zoology: Plants are one key component that sustain animal life on earth. In our Botany we teach the plant anatomy, plant physiology, plant geography and plant horticulture. Zoology encompasses an overview of the animal kingdom and classification suitable for the Kindergarten classroom. We explore animal needs and Biomes.

Health Sciences and Wellness: As a part of the "Cosmic Educator" Maria Montessori believed that a healthy mind, body and spirit are essential elements to success on the universal path and progression of development. Through the use of science we encourage the child to be a creative problem solver and think outside the box. Our wellness curriculum covers a person of interest each month (people who inspire us) and the use of Yoga and meditation practice. Each month a new Wellness topic is covered that helps aid and cultivate peace and self awareness for the child.

Advanced Practical Life: Children entering Montessori Kindergarten have already had fairly unlimited access to basic Practical Life activities. As these children mature, more challenging Practical Life material will be introduced to the child that hone the skills needed for success in later subjects and life in general. The activities in the Advanced Practical Life area are simpler versions of many of those that the adults in their lives engage in. Topics such as food preparation, cooking, sewing and basic etiquette that will help the child develop a high level of concentration and improve fine motor skills, while evoking a sense of respect for others and the environment.





# Daily Schedule Outline

9:00- 10:30	Class time begins promptly at 9:00 (please be on time) Work Period  - Independent work time - Individual lesson time - Work books (math and language one page in each) Monday: Journal writing day (What I did on the weekend)
	Friday: Journal writing day (Journal theme different each week)
10:30-11:00	Morning circle / calendar -Student helper -Days of the week /Date and months of the year -New lesson introduction
11:00-11:30	Morning Recess
11:30-12:00	Afternoon Circle / Lunch Preparation - Story time - New lesson introduction; Art and Practical Life - Lunch preparation 12:00 lunch clean up and independent book time
12:30-1:00	Yoga, Meditation and Wellness  - Alternating floor yoga and standing yoga series  - Meditation twice a week  - Wellness; Compassion (Theme changes each month)  Tuesday: Group wellness project (changes each month)
1:00-1:30	Afternoon Recess
1:00-2:30	Work Period  - Independent work time - Individual lesson time - Work books Thursday: Weekly Reader Group activity 2:00-2:30
2:30-2:40	End of the day circle - Review time - Story Friday: Project sharing 2:00 -2:30
2:40- 3:10	Dismissal and Carline - Carline 3:10 - After school care

<sup>\*</sup> Specialist not added into the schedule. Schedule is subject to change

### Montessori Kindergarten Curriculum Outline

#### September

Monthly Study: Community workers, safety in and out of the home, safety at school

Sensorial: Basic geometric shapes: Preparation for Geometry studies

Math: Numerals 1-10; Greater or less than; using comparative language to compare numbers

Language: Lower case recognition and sound recognition; three letter phonetic blending

Earth Science: Living and Non living; Plant and Animal

Wellness & Self Development: Introduction to Yoga and meditation; getting to know yourself through silence and yoga. Feelings; how to feel your feelings and emotions. "Today I Feel" by Jamie Lee Curtis. Self portraits

#### October

Monthly Study: Spiders, bats, pumpkins, seeds, harvest

Sensorial: Measuring; length, height, volume; terms used for measurement

Math: Grouping numerals; odd and even numerals; Teen numeral building; Using comparative

vocabulary to descried objects / longer/shorter/ heavier/ lighter

Language: Rhyming objects; rhyming three letter phonetics; rhyming stories and games

Earth Science: The seasons; life cycle of a pumpkin; land air and water

Wellness & Self Development: Energy; energy in thoughts and all that we do; "Love Thyself" by

Masaru Emoto. "The Secret of Water" by Masaru Emoto

#### **November**

Monthly Study: Birds; turkey; flamingo; penguin; owl; parrot; chicken; parts of an egg

Sensorial: Relationships with shapes; identifies material in the room to match the geometric

shapes; poster making

Math: Pattern work: Identifying a pattern; building a pattern; completing a pattern

Language: Three letter phonetic spelling words; short vowel introduction

Earth Science: Water and Land Poster making; Hemisphere map and the seven continents

Wellness & Self Development: Peace Mandalas; The history of the Peace Mandala: "If Peace is"

by Jane Baskwill. Children create their own peace Mandalas

#### **December**

Monthly Study: Nutrition and healthy eating

Sensorial: The study of a square; The study of Triangles

Math: Unifi cubes; addition and subtraction skills; Greater or less than

Language: Introduction to beginning site words

Earth Science: Cultural holiday studies; Continent study: North America

Wellness & Self Development: Gratitude; How to cultivate an attitude of gratitude everyday.

The Gratitude journal. Dreams. The importance of having dreams. "Dream" by Susan V. Bosak

and "The Land of Smared" by Andrea Von Botefuhr. Dreams picture and description

#### January

Monthly Study: The human body and the Five Senses

Sensorial: The study of a line; The study of circles

Math: Rote Counting forwards; backwards Ascending order

Language: Blue Blends; short vowel blends a,e,i,o,u

Earth Science: Structure and function of cells and organism: Continent study South America

Wellness & Self Development: Cultivating love; "Live with an Open Heart" Dalai Lama. "We

Share One World" By Jane E. Hoffelt

#### **February**

Monthly Study: The Cosmos; Solar System; In the beginning Sensorial: Introduction to Geometry: Geometric stick material Math: Graphing multiplies; Organizing mathematical information

Language: Comprehension and listening skills; Listening for the beginning sound and end sounds

of words

**Earth Science:** Forces and motion: The Five Kingdoms of Life: Continent study Europe **Wellness & Self Development:** Compassion and Friendship: "Zen Ties" By Jon Muth

#### March

Monthly Study: Dinosaurs; Geology

Sensorial: Detective adjective game with the triangle families

Math: Skip counting numerals

Language: Site word development continues; Listening for the middle sound in words

Earth Science: Land Forms; Botany; Plant Kingdom: Continent study Africa

Wellness & Self Development: Kindness and Fairness. "Wangari's Threes of Peace" A true story

from Africa by Jeanette Winter

#### April

Monthly Study: Butterflies; Insects

Sensorial: Hexagon families; forming hexagon relationships using the bead chains

Math: Introduction to Fractions

Language: Green Blends; beginning, middle and ending sounds
Earth Science: Animal classification chart: Continent Study Asia

Wellness & Self Development: Journaling as a tool: The story and history of Hans Christian

Anderson: Short story writing project

#### May

Monthly Study: Sea Life; Animal Biomes Sensorial: Measuring area (using shapes)

Math: Introduction to telling time

Language: Verb game; introduction to grammar use

Earth Science: The water cycle; water forms: Continent study Australia

Wellness & Self Development: The Power of Intentions: "Unstoppable Me" Dr. Wayne Dyer. Ten

intentions to live by.

#### June

Monthly Study: Animal Biomes continued Sensorial: Skill building and review time

Math: Introduction to money Language: Logical Adverb game

Earth Science: The Five Kingdoms of Life: Continent study Antarctica

Wellness & Self Development: People who inspire us. Maria Montessori, Dalai Lama, Nelson

Mandela, Gandhi, Martin Luther King JR, Desmond Tutu, Mother Teresa.

<sup>\*</sup> This is an example of a year outline and is subject to change