



Montessori Learning Center

MARCH 27, 2009

Our Mission – Reading our way to Nobility

Hardwired to Speak!

Children learn a language, or for a few, more than one language in the first few years of life. That is, they have learned to “speak” a language and by the age of 5 years it has been shown that a child knows between 4,000 and 24,000 words!

The Importance of Communication

Without language and the mutual comprehension with others, it is clear that mankind would be severely limited and not able to do very much! The power to think is not enough. However intelligent man were, this alone could not produce the deliberations and agreements between them which are necessary for achievement. Language is an instrument of *collective thought*.

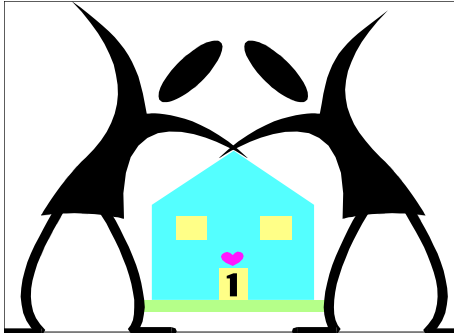
The program used by a few Montessorians, and we number among them, called the “Spalding”, or “Ortin-Gillingham”, or “Riggs method”, teaches what educators of the 1600, 1700 and 1800’s taught — the rules of the English language. IT WORKED! How do we know they worked? Well, the average upstate New York farmer and his wife of that time period could read and discuss what were called the “Federalist Papers”, written during the forming of our Constitution. Today attorneys spend much concentrated effort to come to agreement as to the meaning of those papers!

The average reading level of adults in America today is 5th grade! How do we know? Authors, in order to sell their books, must know the reading level of their target audience. It is 5th grade!

Our country changed the educational thrust in the 1920’s through 30’s to what is known as “whole language” or “sight reading”. It simply has not worked. In the 1980’s Congress mandated a return to phonics after a 3 year study of American educational levels showed a severe drop in reading and comprehension skills.

English is the Most Difficult Language!

English is not a phonetical language! Most languages are! Most languages have between 25 and 45 sounds and that many symbols. The English language has over 250 sounds and only 26 symbols that we call our alphabet! Ouch!



**Continuous improvement is impossible
without continuous innovation!**

Brain-based Learning

What we are using is a multi-sensory program that accommodates every child’s unique learning style. Our students learn to decode our language through the process of moving through a systematic program that teaches 42 basic sounds, using 71 phonograms and over the course of several years learn 42 basic rules of how our language works.

As Maria Montessori taught the children of Italy to “write their way into reading”, we are now able to do just that. Just as the children in those schools “burst” into reading, so do ours! At a certain point in the program we see our children begin to spontaneously read.

The Reading Process

If a child is immersed in the program over a long enough period. **For some that is a year OR LESS but for most it is actually a 2 to 3 year period to truly become great readers!**

Reading is of the essence in laying a good foundation that can lead to greatness if channeled in the way that leads to right morals and ethics! As we use this incredible method, we fill their minds with the best literature and the greatest of standards for noble living – the reading aloud of classics and the memorization of poems and sayings that have the potential for forming great minds and hearts in the children who are exposed to such great teachings!

As the year progresses, our students on all levels are carefully and joyfully lead through a program that further teaches the structure of composition – through DIAGRAMMING! Yes, even

our Kindergarteners are immersed in learning what most will not even begin to learn until high school and they do so with JOY!

Becoming Noble People

Learning to read is just the beginning! Children, to become great and noble humans, who have the ability to feel for others less fortunate than themselves and the knowledge of how to truly reach out to those, must learn much more than just how to read, write and do arithmetic! **That is our mission — to provide an environment for the children of this institution that will open minds; teach discipline; and touch the hearts of those who learn here to become, in short, NOBLE.**

The Lessons Learned

Here will.....

- ◇ Raise the level of eventual joy for each student.
- ◇ Teach correct principles that will bring good into the lives of their future families.
- ◇ Raise their level of integrity and ownership for their actions, thus raising the potential for greatness of heart.
- ◇ Allow ample opportunities for discipline of body and mind which will enable a future of success for we can only be as successful as we are disciplined and in control of our thoughts and actions!
- ◇ Open awareness of correct principles of interaction with fellow citizens, first of the classroom and then, the neighborhood and then world at large.
- ◇ Arm them with the great tool of READING which will be their shield in times of trouble, doubt, despair, and confusion.
- ◇ Equip them with the skill of logical reasoning that the greatest leaders of all times have employed.

Thus armed, what will they then do in their lives, but live in PEACE, living a life of purpose and worth.

The Human Tendencies



Learning to inspire
The child...

We, as the human being, do not come equipped with “instincts” as do the other animals. We come with the “Human Tendencies”! They are:

- Exploration
- Orientation
- Order
- Communication
- Repetition
- Exactness
- Activity
- Self-perfection
- Abstraction

The process of education, then, in order to be of any value to humanity, must take into consideration these human tendencies.

Mankind has been given the freedom to adapt to any environment — the freedom to cover the earth & to conquer it!

Dr. Montessori did not invent these tendencies, she discovered them and developed a way of providing an environment for these tendencies to develop & unfold!

Each child faces us as a unique creation. His potential is an unknown factor. We can impair that potential or we can help it to



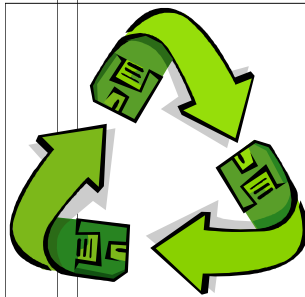
It is never too late to be what you might have been!

the realization of its fullest extent. That's what a Montessori education is about!

When We Make a Choice, We Change the Future

At Montessori an important part of each day is learning to make choices — *wise choices*. We want our choices to please ourselves and others. This is what brings us happiness. Our words and deeds are powerful. They are real. What we think about *long* enough and *strong* enough manifests into the real world. There is something very magical about that. Our thoughts and actions need to be positive, for what we fear we create!

Isn't it interesting that Maria Montessori became a doctor, and then she became a great force in the educational field? She made the choices that lead to this great work with children.



What goes around, comes around!

Every choice we make affects our lives in one way or another. So, it is part of a Montessori environment to assist each

child in learning to make wise choices now, so that in the future they will continue thinking about what their actions will bring. Wise is the person who thinks ahead about the consequences of what one may do. That is an important part of every day — the business of learning “Emotional Intelligence” taught through loving, firm, consequences so that these children may learn now, in order to best affect the rest of their lives for the better. **Our choices determine the quality of our lives.**

Easter Egg Hunt!!

Easter is upon us! Each class will be having an *Easter egg hunt* to celebrate this holiday! **Friday, April 10th**, we will have our annual hunt here at the school. Fun! Each child should bring 6 eggs, hard boiled and **already decorated** that day. If your

child does not bring eggs, it will mean fewer eggs for each child to find on their hunt! So, please, help your child have a great hunt!



Notice!!

**CLOSED FOR
SPRING BREAK!
April 13th—17th**

Note From Miss Ali

Our children are precious to us and when they come into our homes and hearts, we have every intention of giving them the best, don't we? I know I did.

However, the ability to do so lies in our own knowledge of "how to" give our children the correct environment in which they can bloom! Just as a plant seed needs the proper environment, our children also need it in order to unleash the power within in order to become what nature has set forth for them to become.

Human potential lies within each child and what we do now will, with certain surety, evidence results in ensuing years! Yes, what we do matters in the lives of our children. They are imprinting upon their very souls the adult they are to become. The imprints they record upon their souls lead them to believe life is a certain way and that they should react to it according to what they believe is true about themselves and others!

There are certain stages of growth that nature

lays down for the growing child's needs to be met in the coming stages.

What must we do? Many of us become parents without much knowledge of what is, indeed, best in order for our children to reach that full potential. I was one of those! Ouch!

The best thing I did was to search out the best books and glean from them all that I possibly could in order to do what I did not know – raise my children. Yes, answers came and many tears were shed in the learning of what "did" and "did not" work!

I would like to share a few of those good books that have changed the course of my parenting skills for the better, and perhaps will change yours too.

Top on my list:

⇒ *The Secret of Childhood* by Maria Montessori [a must if we are to understand what the human child really needs]

⇒ *Children the Challenge* by Rudolph Driekurs [this book helps one know appropriate limits

to set – whew!]

⇒ *How To Talk So Kids Will Listen and Listen So Kids Will Talk* by Adele Faber & Elaine Mazlish [this one is a must in order to speak the language that kids hear!]

⇒ *Loving Your Child is Not Enough* by Nancy Samalin [practical and entirely readable]

⇒ *No, Why Kids Need to Hear it and Why Parents Need to Say It* by David Walsh [can only be ordered on Amazon!]

⇒ *The Continuum Concept* by Jean Liedloff [a MUST if you wish to truly understand HOW to ALLOW human nature to work successfully]

These are just a few. Ask and I can point you in some more good directions. Happy reading!



**Reach for the stars!
Live as though your
dreams will come true!**

The library is a temple of learning, and learning has liberated more people than all the wars in history.

– Carl Rowan

Fall Registration — Don't miss out— Sign up Now!!

Reserve a place for your child for Fall of 2009.

We are taking registration for Fall now.

We know that you will want to ensure your child a place in our program for the Fall, so now is the time to do that. We are being toured many times a week by pro-

spective parents looking for the Fall. We are anticipating many new enrollments.

Contact us at the office for a new Fall contract to assure that your child will have a place in the program in the coming year.

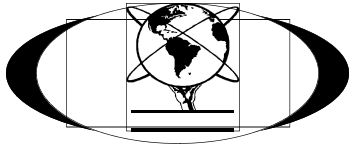
See you soon!

Continuous improvement is impossible without continuous innovation.

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Whatever you can do or dream you can begin it.

Boldness has genius, magic and power in it.

Begin it now.

* * *

Man cannot discover new oceans until he has the courage to
loose sight of the shore.

Montessori Education Through the Summer?!

When the farmer plants the crop, he has to have the faith that if he does what he must, the seed will surely do as it must.

When you placed your child in a Montessori program, you indeed, are preparing ahead because the benefits of this method of allowing children to explore their world and grow in the ways that nature intended, will bring results in years to come.

Just as the farmer can't see the benefits for days to come for his tender care and passionate work, it IS WORKING ANYWAY!

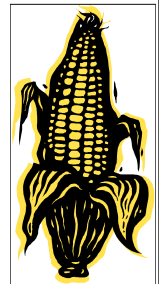
Your efforts with your children in the early, formative years will pay off.

Why have children continue in school during the summer? Well, ask yourself if there is a time when the garden can do without water, weeding or sun? This is NOT JUST SCHOOL – it is a way of allowing for the full development of the child during the formative years. Three months lost at this age can be a REAL LOSS.

Don't let the fact that you may be going on vacation stop you from enrolling. We DO ALLOW YOU TO SUBTRACT FOR VACATIONS (that is bags packed, out of town). That is during June, July and August only.

We don't want to see you sacrifice the entire summer for the reason of money.

And do they need a break? No more than a garden needs a break from water or sunshine!



That which you sow, you also shall reap...