



New World Montessori School

Curriculum - Primary

At the primary level, ages 2 ½ through 6, the child is introduced to practical life skills, sensory development, mathematical concepts, reading, writing, vocabulary, science, geography, music, art, social graces, muscular coordination, concentration skills, self-discipline and independence.

Beginning with practical life and social skills, children learn to follow tasks through to completion, to put things away, and to share materials. Academics are introduced through concrete, manipulative materials that utilize all five senses and lay the groundwork for abstract thinking.

Primary classes are held five days a week, a half-day for children under the age of five, and full days for children five and older. Extended day children also receive instruction in Spanish and physical education.



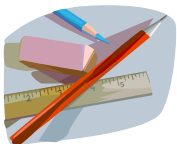
Practical Life

These activities of daily living prepare children to care for themselves and their environment and give each child a sense of mastery and self-confidence. By performing such tasks as sweeping, polishing, washing, and preparing food, children develop coordination, concentration, and good work habits.



Sensorial

Montessori materials are designed to heighten the child's senses of sight, touch, sound, taste, and smell. Through this focus on the senses, children come to possess the key to understanding and classifying the environment. As a child learns to distinguish, categorize, and compare the qualities of concrete materials, he or she also lays the foundation for understanding the abstract.



Mathematics

Children's understanding of the basic mathematical operations of addition, subtracting, multiplication and division emerges from using manipulative materials such as rods and beads, all of which allow the student to visualize the abstraction of numbers. Using self-correcting materials, children not only learn number recognition and place value, but also begin to solve problems and to develop a visual image of mathematical concepts.



Reading and Writing

The young child is immersed in absorbing language, and effortlessly links sounds, symbols and shapes. Using the moveable alphabet and sandpaper letters, children learn the sounds of letters and soon are linking letters to make words, then words to make sentences. Children first develop the small muscle coordination necessary to master writing in their activities of daily living and in using the sensorial materials. After repeatedly tracing geometric figures with a pencil, cutting shapes with scissors, and tracing letters with their fingers, they progress to writing the letters of the alphabet.



Cultural Subjects

History, geography, science, art, and music are referred to as cultural subjects. Children learn about people, their countries, and the world through food, music, pictures, flags, maps, artifacts, the celebration of holidays, and scientific experiments and observations.