

Horizons Class 2024-2025

Welcome Parents and Students to Horizons at ABC-Stewart School!

Below is a link to the 2024-2025 School Calendar. This information may also be found on our website. Thank you.

[2024-2025 School Calendar](#)

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Our Mission

ABC Stewart School seeks to educate and prepare each child to make life's journey as an independent, responsible citizen of the world.

Philosophy

We, as your child's teachers, have a love for nurturing children. We strive to create a peaceful place for students to be independent, enjoy exploring the school works, and be thoughtful of their peers and teachers.

Dr. Maria Montessori's teaching philosophy is the path of inspiration that serves as a direct guide for how Horizons serves each student's educational and personal/social needs. She believed in children having an innate desire to learn and grow with the teacher being the guide in nurturing their natural curiosities.

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Self-directed activity, hands-on learning, and collaborative play are what we see as valuable cornerstones of the Montessori method of education.

Our classroom is composed of 4 rooms: Math/Sensorial, Geography/Science, Language/Practical Life, and Art/Snack. Nature and the four seasons will also inspire creative work choices and activities in the classroom.

All works will first be introduced by the teacher before the students work on them independently. Students develop and learn at their own pace. As students' skills develop we will move ahead with them onto more challenging works so they continue to be engaged and focused in their learning. We work to create a space where the students come to view it as their room with their work materials on the shelves. With us as nurturing guides in their space, we believe we can foster a sense of responsibility, respect, and self-reliance. As we are continually inspired by Dr. Montessori to work on behalf of the child, we look forward to welcoming students into their classroom, Horizons, as children are "a hope and a promise for mankind" (Montessori, Maria. *Education and Peace*. 1949).

***ABC Stewart Montessori School's 5 R's**

Respect, Restraint, Reserve Judgment, Responsibility, and Results

Classroom Rules

RESPECT ourselves, others, and our environment.

Horizon Student Guidelines

1. Be kind to one another.
2. Walk slowly, gracefully, and quietly.
3. Talk softly.
4. Pick up a chair with two hands and always put it back under the table.

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5. Use a rug for all floor activities, and always keep work neatly on the rug.
6. Never sit or walk on rugs.
7. Carry work with two hands, holding it close to your body.
8. Never disturb or interrupt another's work. You may join a child's work only when you ask and if the child agrees.
9. Always put work away when you are finished and before getting new work out.
10. When you need a teacher, walk over to her and touch her shoulder. If she holds up her hand, it means go to another adult for help.

The 4 C's of Teaching/Parenting

*Children learn from making choices and by making mistakes. In the classroom, children will be able to practice their independence in choice making.

Choices- Giving children the space to make choices allows them to be in control of their life and gain independence. Children will have an understanding of what comes after every choice.

Consequence- Every choice we make has a consequence. The purpose of natural consequences is to teach. Giving a child a negative consequence only makes them feel bad for what they did. A natural consequence helps them understand that what happens is from a choice and choices can be changed and we can learn from mistakes that we make. It puts the child in control which gives the child a sense of control and confidence. That confidence will help the child make better choices for themselves.

Consistency- Following through with your words to children is important. Following through with expectations is key. For example: if a child is asked to do something or expected to do something and does not want to, then it's time to say, I will help you do this as it seems you are struggling to do this on your own.

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Compassion- Lessons we give should be done from compassion. Our intonation and leading by example needs to come from a place of compassion. They certainly need it when choices lead to difficult or uncomfortable consequences. This allows children to feel safe and know that even when we make mistakes nothing bad really happens and we can fix them.

Horizon Teacher Guidelines

Based on the Decalogue of Montessori

1. Never touch the child unless invited by him (in some form or the other).
2. Never speak ill of the child in his presence or absence.
3. Concentrate on strengthening and helping the development of what is good in the child so that its presence may leave less and less space for 'evil'.
4. Be active in preparing the environment. Take meticulous and constant care of it. Help the child establish constructive relations with it. Show the proper place where the means of development are kept and demonstrate their proper use.
5. Be ever ready to answer the call of the child who stands in need of you, and always listen and respond to the child who appeals to you.
6. Respect the child who makes a mistake and can then or later correct himself, but stop firmly and immediately any misuse of the environment and any action which endangers the child, his development or others.
7. Respect the child who takes rest or watches others working or ponders over what he himself has done or will do. Neither call him nor force him to other forms of activity.
8. Help those who are in search of activity and cannot find it.
9. Be untiring in repeating presentations to the child who refused them earlier, in helping the child acquire what is not yet his own and overcome imperfections. Do this by animating the environment with care, with restraint and silence, with mild words and loving presence.
10. Always treat the child with the best of good manners and offer him the best you have in yourself and at your disposal

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Horizons Peace Work

Morning meditation mantras for Teachers and Parents (these are a few ideas and we also invite parents to create your own that resonate with you):

- ❖ We are all here to learn
- ❖ Every child brings the best they can that day
- ❖ I will respond with love
- ❖ Smooth is overrated

Conflict Resolution

At ABC Stewart, we follow a school wide approach to conflict resolution.

The 3 Steps

Step 1: Child says “Please stop”

Step 2: Child walks away or tells the other person to please walk away

Step 3: Child goes to the teacher for assistance

Parent Cooperator

We believe that parents know their child best and can serve as a significant cooperator with the teachers in the education of their child.

Please feel free to discuss concerns and questions with us as well as share your observations on how your child is developing throughout the year. We can work together to guide them in their growth. Dr. Maria Montessori summarized our main goal beautifully in her book, *The Absorbent Mind*, when she said, “The teacher, when she begins work in our schools, must have a kind of faith that the child will reveal himself through work.” With our lower student-teacher ratio, we look forward to getting to know each of our students and their families well, and becoming aware of students’ individual learning styles.

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Here is a list of parent cooperators needs Horizons has for the 2024-2025 school year:

- Drop and pick up your child on time. Morning traffic and drop off begins at 8:30 am and ends at 8:40 am. Morning dismissal is at 11:15 a.m. Splendid Days students will be clocked in at 11:15 a.m. Afternoon traffic begins at 3:00 pm. Please see this school year's printed Traffic Pattern map that explains the flow of traffic.
- Pack a nutritious lunch if your child is staying for lunch every day. Please let us know if your child has any allergies or dietary restrictions.
- Provide a change of clothes (top, bottoms, underwear, socks) in a ziplock bag with your child's name on it. These will be kept in your child's backpack.
- We will use the Homeroom App this year for posting pictures of our students working, and will provide a regular stream of communication between Teachers and Parents. Please check the stream regularly for fun and important updates. You can join here, [Homeroom App- Horizons Classroom 24-25](#)
- Please send in a **4x6 family photo** that we may put up in the classroom on the Family Wall.
- Please see the supply list and send in supplies with your child during the first week of school.
- We have a Scholastic Book Club that you may participate in throughout the year. Participation helps to build our classroom library.
- There is an optional [Horizons Amazon Wishlist](#). These are wishes that we truly appreciate if you are able to donate something from the list to our classroom.

Supply List (SUPPLIES MUST BE LABELED)

- Afternoon Students Only: Splashy suit to protect clothes on wet and snowy days [Purchase Here](#)
- Rain boots
- Lunch bag and ice pack
- Set of extra clothes (place in a ziplock bag labeled with your child's name)
- Backpack
- Family Picture (4x6)
- 1 box of tissues (does not need labeled)
- 1 box of colored pencils (does not need labeled)
- Water bottle
- 1 package of white cardstock

We have compiled a list of teacher recommended options [you may view them here.](#)

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* **Backpacks**

Every child needs a backpack every day. Please remember to place the appropriate tag on your child's backpack each day. You will have a **Splendid Days tag** if your child is staying for lunch and nap, or a **Traffic tag** if you are picking your child up at 11:15 am or 3:00 pm dismissal.

* * **Cultural Shelf Work (encouraged)**

We would like the materials on our shelf to represent the diversity of our students and their families. It's important for students to see themselves on our shelves. We invite you to bring in an item that reflects your culture that we may either place up high for students to see visually or an item that may be placed on a shelf for students to touch and work with in the classroom. If you're interested in adding to our classroom environment, we will meet with you to ensure the items shared are properly and respectfully introduced to our students. This may look like the teacher introducing the material or the parent providing an explanation/presentation of the material.

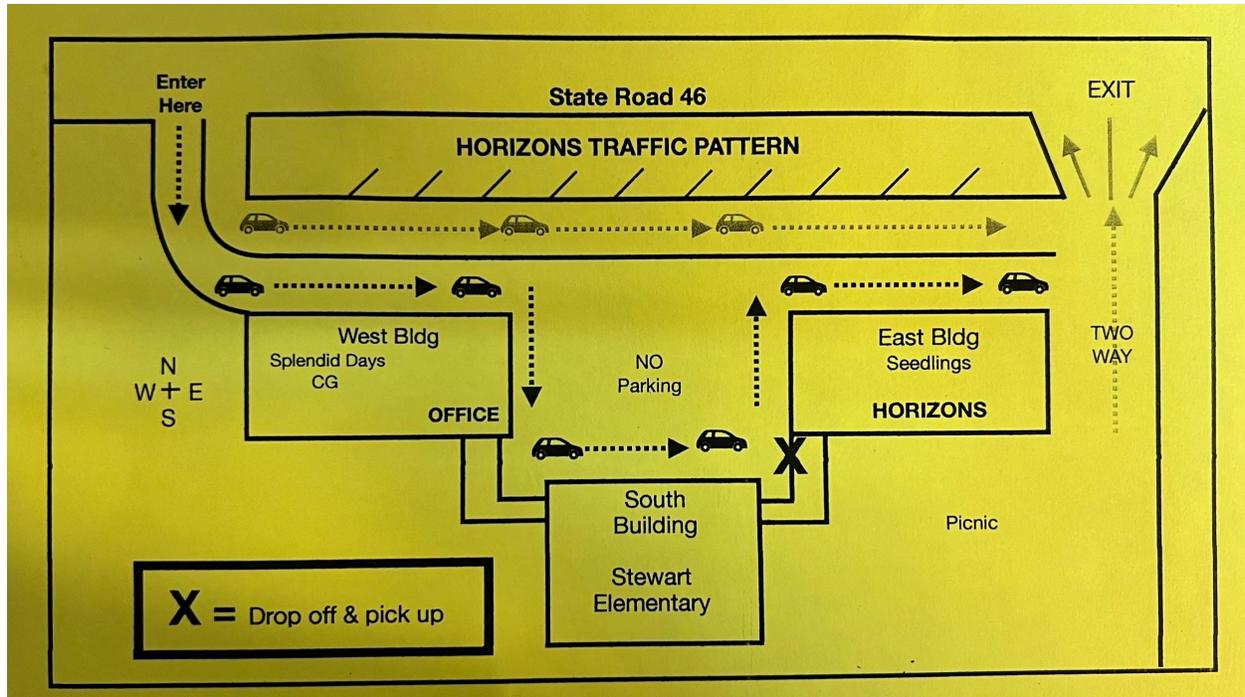
Attendance Policy

Attendance every day is vital to your child's success at ABC Stewart Montessori School. Children thrive with consistency, so it is important to attend school every day when possible and be on time. Being in the classroom on time helps students find their place in the room and start their day off right. Class begins promptly at 8:45 a.m.

We know there are times when your child must miss school. Please contact our administrator, Rae McQueary, so we know that your child will not be attending. If your child is sick, please be sure to let us know of the illness so we can be aware. You may refer to our sickness policy below for further information on what to do when your child is sick. Thank you. If you need care before or after class time, please drop your child off in the Splendid Days room. Splendid Days is open from 7:30AM-5:30PM for your convenience.

Drop Off and Pick Up

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Drop off begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 8:40 a.m. Half day students' pick up begins at 11:15 a.m. and ends at 11:25 a.m. Morning students staying for Splendid Days will be clocked in at 11:15 a.m., and any morning students that are not picked up by 11:25 a.m. will be clocked into Splendid Days. Afternoon pick-up begins at 3:00 p.m. Students that are still here at 3:10 p.m. will be clocked into Splendid Days. Please note that teachers will have a planning time scheduled on Monday afternoons. Mondays will be a half day for all Horizons students. If you plan on using the traffic line, there are specific guidelines we ask parents to follow. Parents should stay in their vehicle. The teacher will help your child out of the car. Do not exit your vehicle. Your child should be ready, unbuckled with their backpack on and lunch box in hand. The traffic line is not an appropriate time for parent/teacher communication. If you need to ask the teacher a question, please send an email or text. Traffic Lines need to move quickly in order to accommodate the traffic times of other classrooms. If you arrive early or late, you will need to use a parking space.

Please walk your child all the way to the door. We ask that parents not enter the classroom at this time, as it makes it difficult for the children to begin to connect to the environment and settle into an interesting activity. Be sure that you get direct recognition from a Horizons teacher that we are aware that your child has arrived before you leave.

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Children enter the room independently and take care of their own things. Once their belongings are put away, children may walk about freely in the classroom to find their first activity of the day.

If your child is crying at drop-off the best way to get her to calm down is for you to say a loving and confident goodbye, turn on your heel and leave. The teacher will be there to comfort her and get her settled in. Children almost always stop crying and calm down once the parent has left. Prolonging a tearful goodbye does just that; prolongs the tears and distress.

Janet Lansbury has a wonderful podcast explaining how to navigate school drop offs.

https://www.audible.com/pd/B0B93ZBHZN?source_code=ASSORAP0511160006&share_location=podcast_episode_detail

Sickness Policy

Please keep your child at home if they are sick (fever, diarrhea, throwing up). It is important that you not give your child medicine/tylenol and send them to school. Our sick policy requires students to **stay home for 24 hours** after their last symptoms.

Snack and Lunch

We will be providing a simple, healthy snack for your child that she or he will independently prepare when hungry during our morning work block. Please pack your child a nutritious and well balanced lunch each day. Please no desserts/candy in lunches. Pack only water in their water bottle for the day. The children will use this water bottle during recess and lunch, no extra packed drinks like milk or juice in lunches. Cold lunches will need an ice pack, as they are not stored in the refrigerator. Please send food that your child can eat independently. Pack food in a way that the child can easily access it. You may have your child practice opening the containers a few days before school begins. We want to encourage independence by students getting their lunch out and ready to eat and cleaning up their spot when lunchtime is over.

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Dress Code

Dress your child in clothing that is comfortable and allows your child to run and play freely. **Learning can be messy, so please do not send your child in his or her “best” clothes.** We will be outside unless it is storming, we have a heat index of 100 degrees, or wind chill of 20 degrees. During wet conditions, we recommend sending your child in **rain or snow boots.** It is a good idea to keep extra pairs of socks in your child’s backpack. Water can flood a child’s boots if they jump in puddles without their splashy suit covering their boots. Please dress your child appropriately according to the weather. **Coats, hats, and mittens or gloves** are a must during winter months. Layers can be helpful. Also, keep your child’s independence in mind when selecting clothes. How is his or her independence facilitated through these clothes? Dress your child in clothes that they can easily pull down and pull up in the restroom. If your child has a dress or skirt on, please have shorts or pants underneath. Please send your child in shoes that he or she can take on and off independently, such as velcro shoes. Certain accessories such as jewelry, purses, sunglasses, toys, and money can be dangerous and a distraction. Excessive branding or costumes can also be distracting. These items should not be brought to school. **Toys and personal belongings are not allowed inside the classroom. Students must leave them at home.**

Horizons Daily Schedule

Morning Session Schedule:

8:30 a.m. - Arrival	10:15 a.m. - 10:40 a.m. - Outside
8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. - Students hang up their belongings in their cubbies independently.	10:40 a.m. - 10:50 a.m. - Meditation 10:50 a.m. - 11:05 a.m. - Meeting
8:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. - Classroom work begins. Work cycle with individual and small group lessons.	11:15 a.m. - Half-day children go home or to Splendid Days

All Day Student’s Lunch and Afternoon Session Schedule:

11:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. - Exploration time	1:50 p.m. - 2:05 p.m - Handwriting
11:30 a.m - 12:30 p.m - Lunch	2:05 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. - Work cycle
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Outside	2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Prepare for

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	dismissal
1:35 p.m. - 1:50 p.m. - Chapter book	3:00 p.m. - Dismissal

** Schedule is subject to change for seasonally themed activities with special days planned. We will keep parents informed of special days we plan throughout the year, and welcome parents' ideas and participation. Examples of special days include, but are not limited to; Thanksgiving Dinner, Festival of Lights, Valentine's Day Tea, Walk-a-thon.

Curriculum

Practical Life, Grace and Courtesy, Sensorial, Language, Math, Science, Culture/Geography, Art



Passport

Area of Study	
<p>Math</p> 	<p>Math is logic, sequence, order, and the extrapolation of truth. In the Montessori philosophy it's stated that the child has a 'mathematical mind' and an internal drive to understand the environment around them. It can therefore be said that children have an inborn attraction for math. Their minds are full of energy that propels them to absorb, manipulate, classify, order, sequence, abstract, and repeat. These tendencies are those which help the child to acquire a greater depth to his mathematical knowledge.</p> <p>It is the precision of the presentations and the exactness of the math materials that attract children to this area of the classroom. As well, children in the primary Montessori classroom are in the process (sensitive period) of fine tuning their perceptions. Children are sensitive to minute changes in order, sequence, and size. They will notice a teeny tiny bug in the crack of the sidewalk whereas adults will walk by blindly without notice.</p>
<p>Sensorial</p> 	<p>Each of the sensorial materials isolates one defining quality such as color, weight, shape, texture, size, sound, smell, etc. The equipment emphasizes this one particular quality by eliminating or minimizing other differences. Thus, the sound boxes are all the same size, shape, color, and texture; they differ only in the sounds made when a child shakes them. It is possible for adults, as well as children, to receive any number of sensory impressions and be none the richer. Sense impressions are not enough by themselves; the mind needs education and training to be able to discriminate and appreciate. Montessori materials help the child to distinguish, to categorize, and to relate new information to what he already knows. Dr. Montessori believed that this process is the beginning of conscious knowledge. It is brought about by the intelligence working in a concentrated way on the impressions given by the senses.</p> <p>Sensorial materials are self-correcting to allow independent use, they foster muscular development which lays the foundation for writing skills, and they are produced to precise metric tolerances. Correct terminology (binomial cube, isosceles triangle) and mathematically exact relationships enrich the child's experience so that abstract concepts may attach to familiar reality.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>Montessori science is broken down into the categories of zoology, human biology, botany, earth science, physical science, as well as mechanics and technology. Throughout the entire ideals of Montessori, the attitude towards the child is to allow them to be led by their own curiosities and for them to be the ones in control of what niche they dive deeper into.</p>
<p>Geography</p> 	<p>The whole purpose of Montessori geography is to help students understand their world better. It is to help them be able to place themselves where they live and to understand that all beings on earth have the same basic needs that they do. By working with different maps and talking about different cultures, learners gain an appreciation for how different cultures meet these same needs.</p> <p>The purpose of teaching geography is also to help learners better care for the earth that they live on and to realize how important the earth is.</p>

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<p>Language</p> 	<p>Montessori reading is based on a strong foundation of phonics. This multi-sensory approach is unique in that it has children building words (encoding) before actually reading them (decoding). Developmentally appropriate activities allow children to build their own understanding of how sounds are represented by symbols, and these symbols are joined together to form words. We begin by introducing the children to sounds with the sandpaper letters, after that, they use the Moveable Alphabet to encode words. Once they can build words, we move into writing. Children start with cursive in Horizons. Our reading program consists of 3 series: The Pink, Blue, and Green Series. In the Pink series, we work with cvc words and short vowel sounds. In the Blue Series, we introduce consonant blends. The Green Series is where a child becomes a fluent reader, as it contains all the major phonemes, digraphs, hard, soft, and silent letters.</p>
<p>Practical Life</p> 	<p>Most children are passionately interested in practical life activities because the activities respond to all the sensitive periods (important periods of childhood development). Practical life activities build a foundation on which the children will grow and carry over into the other areas of the classroom, and over into their everyday life. The Montessori Practical Life exercises respond to the need for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Order of activities (sequences, routine, hierarchy, a cycle or full rotation of an activity)• Movement. All practical life activities involve great movements that are varied and attractive. The variety of movements help the child's self-awareness within the environment and increase the child's acquisition of intelligent movement.• Sensorial exploration (sights, sounds, smells, and eventually language).• Needs and tendencies are responded to, to help the children adapt so that they can actively participate and grow within their environment.• A child's love of work. Practical life activities feed their natural desire to work and play an active role in their environment.
<p>Art</p> 	<p>Art is one of the many ways children express themselves. Art is a way for children to communicate their feelings. It is through art that children develop their fine motor skills. In the Montessori environment, we provide open-ended art activities that help children explore and use their creativity.</p> <p>When it comes to art, it is the process, not the product that is important to the child. As adults, our goal is to produce a product. The child interacts with the world differently. The child works to develop himself. The focus is on the process not the product. Once a child creates something, he does not feel the need to keep the product. It is the process that gives him satisfaction and inner joy.</p> <p>Montessoriprintshop.com</p>

Birthday Tradition

Everyone wants to be remembered and cherished on the special day that they were born. The Montessori Celebration of Life is a lovely way to celebrate a child's birthday in a school setting.

Children love to hear about the journey from their birth to the present day. They want to hear stories, look at photos, and remember wonderful memories. They want to know how cherished they are, and how our life and world is better because they were born. The Montessori Celebration of Life is the perfect way to do this.

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In Horizons, we use a silk that has a sun, the months, a candle, and a globe to help show the passage of time and the growth of the child from birth to this birthday celebration. The birthday child will walk around the sun for each year of life. Class will sing a sweet birthday song as the child is walking. Each time around, they will pause and we will read the parents' story for that year of life. If you attend your child's celebration, we will give you the option to read their special life story.

In preparation for the Montessori Celebration of Life, the parents of the birthday child are asked to bring in a picture for each year of the child's life, and write a short life story to accompany the pictures.

We ask that these be brought into school **two days before** the child's celebration. We will email parents a Celebration of Life calendar so you can see and plan for your child's birthday celebration. Children born in the summer months will do a "half birthday" celebration so that they may be celebrated during the school year.

On your child's celebration day they will bring in their **mystery bag** item! We will send home the mystery bag with instructions the day before.

You may print a [Birthday Celebration Form](#) here.

Birthdays will be the start of class at 8:45 and usually lasts 20-30 minutes.

Sharing

We like to provide a friendly, age appropriate environment for students to stand up in front of a group and speak. This is planting the seed for developing public speaking skills. With every positive experience students have speaking to a group, there is a greater likelihood that their self-confidence will increase.

In Horizons, one way we will practice these skills is by students sharing a book with the class during our class meeting time. How often students share a book will vary depending on their age and development as we all learn and grow at an individual pace.

Prior to sharing a book of their choice, students will first need to complete a Buddy Reading Log. Buddy Reading Logs will be handed out to parents during orientation and then will go home in student planners as they are completed. The log has 25 slots for families to fill in the title of the book, the date, and who read the book. Once this is completed, please have your child select a book from the sheet that they want to share with the class. Your child may put it in their backpack along with

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the completed reading log. The teacher will gently support students during their sharing time by having the student show the book to everyone, say the title, and talk about a favorite part of the book, a favorite character, the setting, how the story ended, etc. The teacher or student will then read the book to the class. The completed buddy reading log, a blank buddy reading log, and the book will all go home with the student once they have shared it with their class.

American Montessori Society Learner Outcomes of a Montessori Education

Independence - The characteristic of an individual who can function by himself.

Whenever possible, the child has a tendency to render himself independent of the help of others, especially of the adult. ~ Maria Montessori, The Absorbent Mind

Confidence - The feeling or belief that one can rely on someone or something; firm trust.

Competence - The ability to do something successfully and efficiently.

Feeling one's own value, being appreciated and loved by others, feeling useful and capable of production are all factors of enormous value for the human soul. ~Maria Montessori

Autonomy - The freedom to determine one's own actions and behavior; to self regulate and become self directed.

The child who has never learned to act alone, to direct his own actions, to govern his own will, grows into an adult who is easily led and must always lean upon others. ~ Maria Montessori

Intrinsic Motivation - The work is its own reward. The child is working for the sheer joy of doing so.

Social Responsibility - Montessori believed that children must be in a community of others to develop their full potential.

The individual must think more about the success of his group than of his own personal success. ~Maria Montessori, The Absorbent Mind

Academic Preparation - *Our aim is not merely to make the child understand, and still less to force him to memorize, but so to touch his imagination as to enthuse him to his innermost core. ~Maria Montessori, To Educate the Human Potential*

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Spiritual Awareness - Montessori viewed the child as a “spiritual embryo” which seeks to make his or her own unique contribution to the cosmic plan: the cosmic task.

Global Citizenship - Montessori believed that the root of peace is laid when children are intentionally taught global citizenship and develop respect for diversity and a sense of personal responsibility.

The Montessori Family's Role

By P. Donohue Shortridge

**The Montessori experience is a partnership between the school and the family.
Here are some strategies for parents of young children in Montessori.**

Learn about Montessori Philosophy

Create and maintain active dialog with school/respect school policies

- Come to all the parent nights
- Read handbooks, notes and hand outs
- Observe your child at Montessori
- Ask questions of your child's teacher/administrator

Arrival and Departure are Very Important

Adequate sleep

- Proper daily nutrition
- Pleasant morning routine
- Refrain from DVDs/radio/cell phone use in car

Arrive on time

Child walks into school

- Child carries own possessions into school

Mom/Dad shows confidence, rather than effusive emotion or ambivalence

- Parent and child greet staff person/parents refrain from cell phone use
- Child is not discussed with teacher in front of child
- Return when you say you will/refrain from cell phone use
- Take time to greet child/allow for natural transition
- Tell child you are happy to see him rather than ask what he did today
- On ride home, notice things, sing, tell jokes, stories or allow for silence
- Refrain from DVDs/radio/cell phone use on ride home
- Tell child about what is happening next/keep routine the same
- Upon arrival at home, child is expected to put belongings away

Tips for Daily Life

Routine, routine, routine

Your child can do just about everything for himself

"Every useless aide arrests development" M. Montessori

Everybody does chores/show him how

Hands-on activities are best

Beginning, middle and end of all activities

Limits are needed for your child's optimum development

Your child shows you he needs more limits when he acts out

Unstructured, slow time in nature is crucial every day

Your child's intelligence grows through purposeful movement

Organized sports can wait

Computer skills can wait

TV, movies, DVDs, computer games can wait

Most of your extra-curricular activities may also have to wait

Do not negotiate that which is not negotiable/ "OK?" at the end of a sentence

Slow down; your child can't move, think, talk or transition as fast as you

Together, sort through your child's toys, books, remove many of them

Each possession has a place

Be present; your child does not understand "later"

More conversation and laughing and less badgering

Your word is your bond/your child is learning to trust from you

Enjoy and accompany your child through his development

Parenting is the biggest work you will ever do. Your child needs you to do it well.

P. Donohue Shortridge, a Montessorian since 1980, speaks and writes about children and their families in the American culture. She conducts parent night talks, staff in-service sessions and workshop presentations. Visit her website at www.pdonohueshortridge.com

P. Donohue Shortridge

fostering the authentic life of children and their families in the American culture

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A Poem for Parents: Nothing

*When children come home at the end of the day,
The question they're asked as they scurry to play is,
"What did you do at school today?"
And the answer they give
makes you sigh with dismay.
"Nothing, I did nothing today!"
Perhaps nothing means
that I played with blocks, counted to ten, or sorted some rocks.
Maybe I painted or learned to tie my shoe
Or learned what happens when you mix red and blue
Maybe I learned to tuck in my chair and put my work away
Or maybe I learned to be kind to a friend while I was playing outside today,
Maybe my scissors followed a line and I learned to write my name.
Maybe I learned some sounds or numbers or learned to play a new game,
Maybe I made a craft or sang a song from beginning to end,
Or maybe I learned to play with a special, brand new friend.
When you're in preschool
And your heart has wings,
"Nothing" can mean so many, many things.
(Author Unknown)*