

Montessori Classroom Lesson Plans:

September -

Peace, Community, Respect

SAMPLE – Day 1 and 2

Ву

Robin Norgren, M.A.

"Children are human beings to whom respect is due, superior to us by reason of their innocence and of the greater possibilities of their future... Let us treat them with all the kindness which we would wish to help to develop in them."

Maria Montessori

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Topics We Introduce in September:

Our peaceful classroom – Introductory Lessons

The children make the classroom rules

Peace Table

Nature Table

Care of the classroom environment

Care of the classroom animals

Grace & Courtesy lessons

Parts of the body

Control of the body

Care of the body

Kindness

Feelings

Senses

Celebration of Life

Week 1: Monday

8:30am Circle: Read a book from the Peace selections

Introductory Lessons (given in large group): Walking feet, Sitting on a circle, Hands in own space, Raising hand, Walking behind circle, carrying a rug, walking around a rug, carrying a tray, Roll and put away a rug. I have the year 2 or 3 students in the class demonstrate these lessons. If I have a group of all 3 year olds. Give a few of these lessons each day at circle time.

YOGA: MOUNTAIN POSE

Introduce to Practical Life Area:

Have work available for new students to be successful at and have some familiarity with:

Puzzle* Pouring beans Dusting a shelf
Pattern blocks* Pouring rice Tonging work

Dismiss for work cycle one or two at a time. One way to easily move into this next segment is to dismiss based on color of shirt or shoes, long hair/short hair

Select a small group to invite to lessons with the sensorial work you have available. I find that the Knobbed Cylinders is a great one to start with.

Art: Name Collage

11:30am Circle: MY SPACE—Talk about 'my space.' Demonstrate using an imaginary paintbrush to paint the space around you. The children each choose their favorite color and paint their space. This time may also be used for outside play. During the first week provide more outside free time to allow children to interact and socialize naturally.

During circle throughout the year each child will take turns setting the table. For the first few weeks, the year 2 and 3 children set the tables for lunch.

Story Time – Read a book from the NOISE selections

Follow your school/state guideline with regards to preparation for rest time. For example, younger children who require rest could prepare their cots and use the restroom before the story so they can go quietly to their cots afterward. Play quiet music, preferring with music and lyrics that promote relaxation. Children not requiring a rest may choose work or relax in the peace corner or reading corner. You can also use this time to work with the older children on the lessons

that have left off at from prior year – that information should be in the student's records.

2:30pm Circle: MY NAME – Everyone has a name. It is our own sacred sound. Demonstrate the use of name cards for various work such as a job chart and placing on a snack table or unfinished work. Match name card and the name label on the child's personal items bin. Model the use of hand lettering for classroom and cubby labels rather than a labeler.

Carrying a pencil

Shaking Hands

Clap names (or sing name song to leave circle and choose work)

YOGA: Mountain Pose and Calming breath in and out

ART: This is my Hand

Name Songs: Choo Choo Action Song

Choo-Choo-Choo-Choo, Choo-Choo-Choo-Choo, Up the railroad track, Choo-Choo-Choo-Choo, Choo-Choo-Choo-Choo, Then we come right back.

First we go to [person's name]'s house, And then go up the track, Then we go to [person's name]'s house, And then we come right back.

Choo-Choo-Choo-Choo, Choo-Choo-Choo-Choo, Up the railroad track, Choo-Choo-Choo-Choo, Choo-Choo-Choo-Choo, Then we come right back.

Game Instructions

- 1. Slap hands forward and back every time you say "choo-choo-choo-choo".
- 2. On the line, "Up the railroad track" walk fingers up one arm.
- 3. On the line, "Then we come right back" walk fingers down the other arm.

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*Generic instructions such as Puzzle and Pattern Block are some ideas that you can use at the beginning of the school year just to help children feel comfortable in the classroom. For some of your students who have never been in the Montessori environment, everything will feel foreign to them which will increase anxiety. If this is the child's first week away from his mom or dad, the beauty of what takes place with the 'real' Montessori materials may be lost on them. These items may be available for a VERY LIMITED TIME in the classroom. The goal is to have them completely out of your environment within 30 days.

Grace and Courtesy: These lessons are introduced at appropriate opportunities as situations arise. Grace and Courtesy lessons are in the supplemental guides.

Week 1 Tuesday

8:30am Circle: Read a book from the Peace selections.

Say, "Our classroom needs rules in order to be a peaceful, safe and happy place. You all will help make "Our classroom Rules." You or an older child prints them on a piece of poster board. Ask questions like "How could we talk so we aren't yelling and hurting everyone's ears?" Examples: Inside voice, Walking feet, Hands and feet in our own space. Work or watch without disturbing others.

Lessons:

Knobbed Cylinder Block 1 Spooning Beans

Sweeping Beans Pouring popcorn

Animals in Line

Art: Salt Dough/Playdough

11:30am Circle: Read a book from the Quiet selections

Lessons:

The Silence Game- with silence sign or bell
Using a Quiet Voice

YOGA: Staff Pose and Half Butterfly Pose

Follow with Quiet Music slower than the heartbeat

Quiet Time

2:30pm Circle: The children repeat simple rhythms (clap, clap, slap)

Story Time: Read a Book from the Noise selections

YOGA: Mountain Pose and Chair Pose

Lessons:

Putting on a Water Apron Table Bucket and Sponge

Squeezing a Sponge – listen for the last quiet drip Chalk Board

Carrying a Bucket Replacing Work on the Shelf

Hanging up the Apron Line Tracing and Line Book

Animals in Line

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CREATE THIS WORK: Animals in Line-Ten animals similar to TOOB ANIMALS, 9"x12" felt covered heavy cardboard or posterboard, two ½" x6" strips of felt.

Lesson: make a "straight line" with the strips any place on the felt board. Place the animals on the felt line, one behind the other. Count by ones to 10. Talk about the 'front' and the 'back' of the line. Point and say "first" and "last." Allow creative play about standing and walking in line and being first and last. Example of a conversation:" This time the deer will be first. Next time the bear will be first."



Hello! My name is Robin Norgren and I feel honored to be a part of the Montessori community. I come with almost 20 years experience in management and a love of education and creativity and believe that lifelong learning is key to the navigating the world we live in.

I was born in Wurzburg, Germany where my dad was stationed with the U.S. Army. I spent most of my childhood in Detroit, Michigan but moved to Arizona when I was 14 years old.

I have been married for 16 years and my husband has proudly served in the U.S. Navy for almost 20 years so I have been privileged to have traveled quite a bit. I have two children, a boy and a girl ages 29 and 12. The oldest is in the U.S. Air Force and currently stationed in North Korea and the youngest is excited to start Junior High.

I attended Arizona State University and earned my Bachelor of Science degree in business management and worked in retail for about 15 years and really enjoyed mentoring and training young employees not just about work but life. When I met my husband, we had dreams of being in the military together which is why I attended Fuller Theological Seminary and earned my degree in Theology with aspirations of becoming a chaplain. But God had other plans and weeks after my candidate packet was rejected, we found out we were pregnant with our youngest. Due to the world's political climate during that

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time, we decided to rethink how our family would move forward since he was beginning to be deployed for long periods of time. I had a friend who talked highly about Montessori with me throughout the years so I looked into it further and decided this might be a beautiful next step.

I began my AMI certification and unfortunately had to put it on hold when my husband was reassigned to Virginia so I took my AMS certification and completed it in 2016. I am still in the process of completing my AMI certification because I find both offer a deep and rich understanding of Montessori not simply as an education process but as a lifestyle and a worldview.

I also am passionate about art education and have created programs that I have taught in both Arizona and Virginia to pre-k to 6th grade classrooms. Because I have worked in a Reggio Emilio school, I have a working knowledge of creating an Atelier space within the classroom. I have a passion for not only inspiring children to be lifelong learners but modeling it as well.

I commit to be a teacher who offers your children not only a vibrant education but an opportunity to build confidence and become independent individuals who are mindful of the world around them and interested in learning and growing into the peacemakers and change agents the world needs.

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