

Toddler Room

The toddler room is for children ages 18 months through 2 years of age. The child/teacher ratio is 12:2. Each toddler teacher will be trained in the Montessori Method, CPR, and first aid.

Education in the toddler room will focus on practical life activities, language, beginning mathematics, and sensorial material.

Practical Life Activities

Dr. Montessori said, "The child who concentrates is immensely happy."

Practical life activities help the child develop concentration and have many other benefits for the child. Practical Life activities are fundamental for a child as they aid the child in their psychological, mental, physical, and social development. The activities are not meant as chores or to train children to be good cleaners, but to help children in aiding him towards independence, refinement of coordination, and concentration. Some examples of practical life activities taught in the toddler room are: folding cloths, pouring water, washing hands, table scrubbing, and flower arranging.

Language

Dr. Montessori was an observer of children and discovered that children go through what she called sensitive periods. Sensitive periods are an aid to development and are specific periods of time during a child's early period of development through experiences and environment. Montessori called it a "passionate interest." During this sensitive period a child learns more easily and perfectly. A child in this stage of development is in a sensitive period for language.

The toddler's Montessori classroom will target this sensitive period for language by developing an enrichment of vocabulary and language training. The language is related to the child's environment within the classroom. Lessons given in the classroom

are all language lessons and giving the children names and vocabulary. The development of language will further be taught through the reading of books, poems, telling stories, singing songs, and the question game. Children will also begin written language by using the Metal Insets to develop fine motor skills.

Beginning Mathematics

The children in the toddler room will learn counting, measurement, shapes, and number recognition by using beautiful Montessori materials presented by the Montessori teacher. The teacher will demonstrate to each child how to use the material and how to practice a certain mathematical skill with the material. Through repetition, the child will gain a deep understanding of basic mathematical concepts. Some of the materials your child will use are the red rods, number rods, sandpaper numerals, spindle box, and the dot game.

Sensorial Material

The sensorial material is designed in such a way to understand the details in the child's environment in a greater way. Some of the sensorial materials your child will use are:

The Pink tower- visual discrimination of dimensions

The Brown Stair- visual discrimination of dimensions

The Color Tablets- provides the child the keys to the world of color

Binomial and Trinomial Cube- building the cube to form the mathematical equation of $(a+b)^3$ for the binomial and $(a+b+c)^3$ for the trinomial.

Graded Geometric Figures- Preparation for understanding the relationship of plane figures

