

Mathematics

Mathematical thinking is a gift to humans at birth, as all humans possess mathematical minds, observed Dr. Montessori. Early adolescents are developing their sense of self and their place in the world. Our mathematics program is a safe environment for students to accomplish these endeavors through nurturing confidence, giving opportunities to explore and apply concepts deeply, and developing a problem-solving style.

The mathematics program incorporates the theoretical and applied study of arithmetic, algebra, geometry and measurement. Students explore the relationships between abstract concepts. Additionally, students apply mathematics knowledge broadly during Science Occupations to solve problems in the Adolescent Community.

Studying mathematics at Nature's Way occurs during every project and business venture as well as in extended class sessions. The adolescent Montessori mathematics curriculum is designed to make math accessible to students in a way that promotes both understanding and engagement. For this reason, the Montessori mathematics methodology includes:

- applied projects related to farm tasks and business ventures
- activity- and discovery-based learning
- the history of ideas
- based on the use of hands-on materials
- individually paced and individually designed

Over a period of two years, students work through the curriculum at their own pace and level. Students have the opportunity to move through Pre-Algebra, Algebra 1, and Geometry as they are ready. Through weekly math seminars, students verbalize math, explore problem-solving methods and share in the solving of challenging problems. When needed, assistance and/or extension activities are provided during individual or small-group workshops or tutorials.