

Supporting Montessori Education at Home



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<https://www.instagram.com/p/Bx-QpheHt-X/>

shared by Brain Balance Center of
Columbus 614-654-3399



"The greatest gifts you can
give your children are the
roots of responsibility and
the wings of independence."

Denis Waitley

Welcome!

1. Preparing the physical environment
2. Activities at home
3. Preparing the social environment
4. Academics

Independence at every age

0-6: Functional

"Help me to do it by myself,"

6-12: Intellectual

"Help me to think for myself."

12-18: Social, economic and emotional

"Help me find myself,"

1.

Preparing the Physical Environment



Accessibility and order

- Ordered, simplified
- Child-height and -sized
- Child-friendly space in every room

A place for things that go to school



A place to work...

(and remember “play is the child’s work”)









Care of Self



Clothing





Shared Spaces

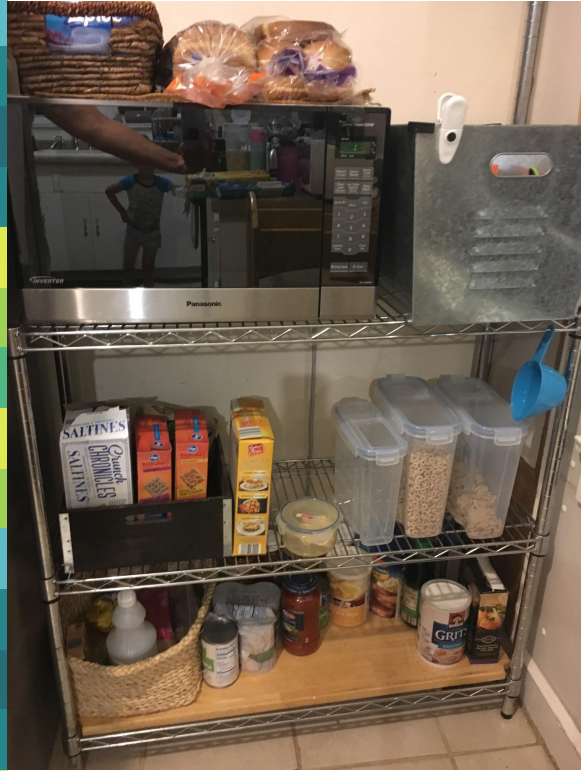




Kitchen







Furniture for Independence



2.

Activities at home

A portrait of Maria Montessori, an elderly woman with white hair, wearing a dark jacket over a white collared shirt. The portrait is set against a dark background and is framed by a white border. The quote is written in a white, cursive font over the portrait.

*"The satisfaction
which they find in
their work has given
them a grace and
ease like that which
comes from music."*

-Maria Montessori

Care of Self

Toddler: dress/undress, manage shoes (slip-on/velcro), brush teeth/hair, wash hands/self, blow nose, toileting, carry school belongings

ECC: buttoning, zipping, snapping, tying, working towards independent bathing, carry school belongings

UE/AC: identifying and responding to changing personal hygiene needs

“Any unnecessary help is a hindrance to development”

~Maria Montessori

Care of the environment and contribution to family life



PD Tools: [Family Meetings](#), [Job chart/wheel/board](#), [Take Time for Training](#), [Routines](#), [Follow Through](#)



Toddler

- Restore toys and activities
- Sit at table appropriately
- Make bed
- Clean spills
- Assist with setting table
- Clear table space
- Scrub (dishes, surfaces, toys, etc...)
- Help water plants
- Assist with anything you are doing



ECC

- Restore toys and activities (use 1 at a time)
- Laundry: Help sort, put in washer and transfer, fold simple items, put away
- Sweep, mop, vacuum (manual carpet sweeper), dust
- Setting and clearing table
- Loading/unloading dishwasher
- Prepare simple breakfast and snack
- Assist with cleaning bathrooms
- Gardening, pull weeds, pick up yard debris,
- Water plants
- Help pack lunch
- Have input in meal planning
- Help cook
- Mend buttons, small tears
- Use tools



LE

- Pack own lunch
- Prepare snacks
- Assist with meal planning, prep, cooking
- Help with laundry
- Maintain room (mostly) independently
- Take out trash, recycling
- Volunteer opportunities/service projects
- Opportunities to earn, save, and spend money
- Complete household jobs independently
- Assist with household projects
- Use tools

UE

Independently...

- Wash own dishes and put away
- Gardening and yard maintenance
- Laundry
- Take out trash
- Recycling
- Dishwasher
- Household/neighborhood projects

AC

Independently...

- Wake themselves up
- Prepare their own breakfast
- Pack their own lunch
- Bring everything they need to school and carry own materials inside
- Do own homework and seek help from guides
- Actively participate in household maintenance

Independent Play and Exploration of Interests



Toddler/ECC

“Passive toys make active learners”

- High quality, open-ended toys (rotate to increase interest)
- Art area with accessible materials
- Books...audiobooks...story podcasts
- Games
- Chalk/dry erase board
- PLAY OUTSIDE!
- Observe for their interests...

Elementary

- Exploration/Research of personal interest
 - Interesting reference books, encyclopedias, field guides, etc...
 - Supplies to creatively express research
 - Telescope, microscope, binoculars, magnifying glass, bug boxes...
- Games: board, card, puzzles, trivia
- PLAY OUTSIDE!
- Let them be bored!

Adolescent Community

Activities that meet your child's need for **self-expression**, such as:

- Encouraging science experiments
- Opportunities to express opinions
- Baking
- Sewing and crafting supplies
- Outdoor adventure

Other life skills

- Table manners, polite greetings
- Writing letters and thank you cards
- Going to library
- Time management
- Calendar skills
- Conversation with people of all ages
- Earning and managing money

3.

Preparing the Social Environment

Home is their safe space...

...and often where you will see big emotions

([After school restraint collapse](#))

Model and encourage:

- Self-advocacy
- [Self regulation](#)
- Learning and growing from mistakes and challenges

PD Tools: [Validate Feelings](#), [Curiosity Questions](#),
[Connection before Correction](#), [Encouragement \(not praise\)](#),
Mirror (point out what you see)

Adolescence: Preparing the Social Ground

“Parenting adolescents can try your patience, and it can certainly challenge your authority. But remember: your goal is not to raise children who become obedient, unthinking adults. Your goal is to raise fully-actualized adults who know how to discern good from bad, who see themselves as useful contributors and who influence the world for the better. ”

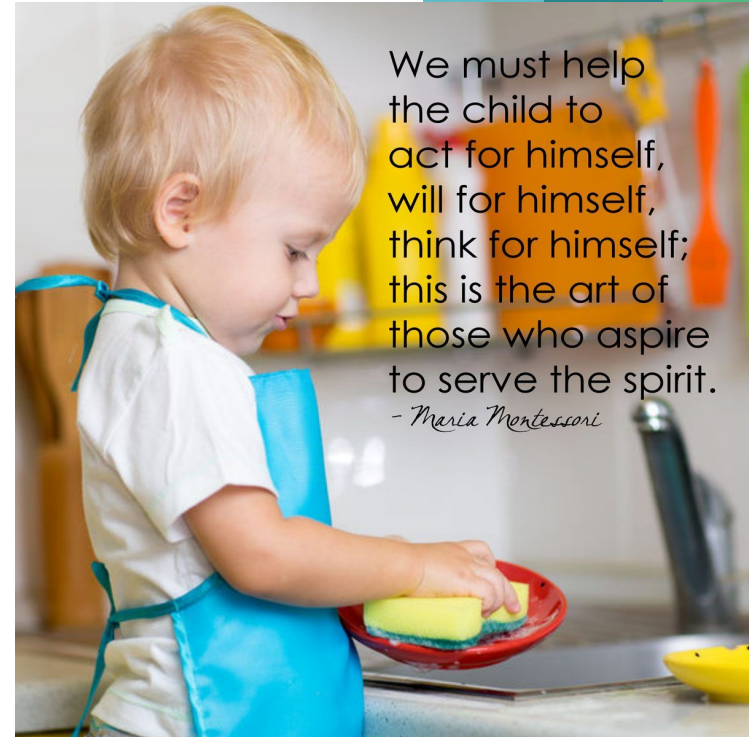
“While a toddler may have a tantrum because he's hungry for food, a teenager will have a tantrum because she's hungry for agency.”

~Catherine McTamaney, from montessoridoashi.com

The Prepared Adult

- Model
- Observe and adapt
- Schedule calm time throughout week

PD Tools: Pay attention, Decide what you will do, Empower your Kids, Letting Go, Avoid Pampering, Don't Back Talk Back, Control Your Behavior, Recovery from Mistakes



We must help the child to act for himself, will for himself, think for himself; this is the art of those who aspire to serve the spirit.
- Maria Montessori

4.

Academics

The education of even a small child,
therefore, does not aim at preparing
him for school, but for life.

Maria Montessori

quote fancy

Self-Advocacy

- **FIRST** ask your child about their work and academic questions
- Encourage them to ask guides for help...Then contact guides if you have additional questions/concerns
- Guides will also contact you with questions/concerns.

Takeaways

- Model what is important to your family
- Prep environment for and encourage independence
- Involve children in purposeful ways
- Listen and be curious: encourage their personal interests and share yours
- Develop relationships with NWMS guides and staff...we are part of your village!

RESOURCES: blogs

- montessoridaoshi.com: "I've been a Montessori teacher, teacher educator and mom for most of the last twenty-five years. This space is designed to support parents and teachers, translating Montessori practices for the home, the classroom, and the community." This blog specifically discusses Montessori's developmental planes, the changes you will see in your children as they progress through them, and how you can support their growth in a developmentally-meaningful way.
- <https://www.howwemontessori.com/>: "I am from Australia (Brisbane) but currently live in the UK (Wiltshire) with my husband and three sons. Caspar is eleven years old, Otis is seven and Otto is one year old. We incorporate the philosophy of Maria Montessori into our home the best we can. Otis and Otto have been raised from birth the Montessori way and I have captured much of their development here on the blog."
- <http://www.thekavanaughreport.com/>: "In 2009, I started this little blog as a way to keep in touch with family and friends. Since then, it's morphed into a way to share the realities of Montessori parenting with the world."
- Mariamontessori.com: "A project from the Montessori Administrators Association (MAA) with a goal of providing accurate and relevant information about the Montessori method of education to parents around the world."

RESOURCES: Child-sized everything

www.montessoriservices.com We are currently doing a group order from Montessori Services. Catalogs and information will be sent home with TC-LE students soon. You can also place an online order. When doing so, use our School Customer Number **(115913)** and the school will earn a 10% credit .

www.montessori-n-such.com

<https://www.littlepartners.com>: Learning Tower, step stools, easels, etc...

You can often find child-sized kitchen utensils at [Mast General Store](#) and [World Market](#). [Rural King](#) often carries child-sized outdoor furniture, wheelbarrows, brooms and yard tools. [IKEA](#) also has a variety of child-sized furniture.

RESOURCES: Podcasts

FOR PARENTS

Janet Lansbury Unruffled: <https://www.janetlansbury.com/podcast-audio/> “Lansbury’s approach focuses on respect for the child and acceptance of her emotions and development, but allows for firm parental limits as needed *Unruffled* offers extremely practical and specific advice for common parenting situations.”

NPR Life Kit—Parenting: <https://www.npr.org/lifekit#parenting> “...NPR's family of audio guides for navigating your life — everything from your finances to sleep to exercise to raising your kids. Each guide covers the basics to more complex questions over the span of a few episodes, to help you no matter where you're starting from.”

Montessori Moment: <https://player.fm/series/montessori-moment> “Listen in to learn about Montessori education and discover how you can apply Montessori principles at home. Designed for parents but available to all we cover topics from choosing a school to supporting children develop healthy relationships with their peers and siblings.”

FOR KIDS

Circle Round, Story Nory, Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls, Fierce Girls, Story Pirates, Brains On, How Stuff Works, Stuff you Missed in History Class, Short and Curly, The Radio Adventures of Eleanor Amplified, The Radio Adventures of Dr. Floyd, Smash Boom Best, Radiolab, and more...

“My vision of the future is no longer of people taking exams and proceeding on that certification from the secondary school to the university, but of individuals passing from one stage of independence to a higher, by means of their own activity, through their own effort of will, which constitutes the inner evolution of the individual.”

—Dr. Maria Montessori, *From Childhood to Adolescence*