

# HERITAGE MONTESSORI INC.

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## MONTESSORI PHILOSOPHY

Dr. Maria Montessori's philosophy is practiced in many variations everywhere in the world. There are few Montessori schools that have expanded their curriculum to include modern technology and other unique schools of philosophies appropriate for the child as ours does. We feel confident in our approach, and always aim to develop the 'whole child'.

### SENSORIAL

Sensorial materials are designed not only to attract a child to engage in meaningful work, but are also designed to refine each of the child's senses. Children develop their cognitive skills and learn to order and classify impressions by touching, seeing, smelling, tasting, listening, and exploring the physical properties of their environment.

### PRACTICAL LIFE

Children must practice to improve the quality of their performance. However, sometimes a child develops awkward movements that may be very difficult to change later on. Therefore, a child needs some sort of expert guidance when in the process of mastering a complex motor skill. Practical life exercises encourage care for oneself, others and the environment. Activities include many of the tasks children see as part of the daily routine in their home. Elements of human sociability are introduced through exercises of grace and courtesy. Through these and other activities, children develop excellent muscular co-ordination, enabling movement and the exploration of their surroundings. They learn to work at a task from beginning to end, and develop their concentration and other related skills in order to control their movement.

### LANGUAGE

The learning of language is truly a child's most remarkable intellectual achievement, and yet it is rapidly accomplished in a very short time span. The Montessori environment provides many different experiences and situations, such as stories and poetry, in order to stimulate a child's interest and conversation. Language development adds energy to a young child's growing fascination with words. Sandpaper letters help children link sounds and symbols (i.e. alphabet letters) effortlessly. To further the development of reading, children are given opportunities to explore the function of words and the structure of sentences.

### MATHEMATICS

Math is an innate part of the child. The basis for a child's early learning in mathematics should be established by the time a child is three years old. Mathematical materials help children learn and understand mathematical concepts by manipulating concrete materials. There is a precise order in math materials which gives a child a solid understanding of basic mathematical principles, as well as prepares them for abstract reasoning and develops problem-solving capabilities.

### CULTURE

Geography, Biology, Botany, Zoology, Art, and Music are presented as extensions of the sensorial and language activities. Children learn to respect and admire other cultures, allowing them to develop a sense of solidarity with the global human family. They not only gain respect for all cultures, they also realize the importance of caring for the environment. Experiences with nature in conjunction with the materials in the environment inspire an appreciation for life. The comprehensive art and music programs give children every opportunity to enjoy a variety of creative activities, as well as to gain knowledge of other great masters.