



**MANOR**  
MONTESSORI  
SCHOOL

## **Casa Program Information Sheet**

### **Practical Life**

Practical life activities are the first skills that students are introduced to in the Montessori classroom. They are everyday activities such as: cleaning hands, dressing, pouring, polishing, caring for a plant, or carrying a water jug. Students follow a sequence of movements to finish a piece of work. Learning to follow the process or steps to complete a task is very important as this approach is then applied to multi-step problem solving in subjects such as math (eg. long division).

Working with practical life materials gives students purpose, responsibility, and practice in methodical thinking. As students improve on these activities, they build independence, confidence, fine motor skills and focus/concentration. In addition, the materials gradually become longer with more involved steps which help the student sustain focus for longer periods of time.

### **Sensorial**

Sensorial activities in the Montessori classroom engage and develop the 5 senses: sight, listening, touch, taste, and smell. The sensory materials focus on developing a student's ability to equate certain attributes to objects, eg. colour, length, texture, smell. Students will sort things by size, shape, color, touch, sound, temperature and weight.

Tools such as knobbed cylinders allow students to exercise their visual discrimination as they use their sight to judge diameter and sort knobs in the correct sized hole. Auditory skills are practiced through the use of Montessori bells and musical tools in the classroom. Tactile skills are engaged through touching and using different materials and students can explore smells and tastes through their experiences with new foods.

### **Language**

Language activities in the Montessori classroom are designed to support students to further their language development. Students learn the phonetic alphabet using sandpaper letters. This material provides the student with a visual and tactile experience. Once they have mastered the alphabet, students progress to creating simple words using the Large Movable Alphabet. Students are then introduced to phonograms and sight words and will begin taking home phonetic word books reading series. As students grow in their language abilities, they are continuously challenged with new reading material, grammar studies, and opportunities to expand their vocabulary and improve their spelling.

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## **Math**

The Math curriculum in the Montessori classroom is hands-on, allowing students to first gain a physical understanding of what numbers represent, followed by their association with the written symbols. Using Montessori materials, Mathematics begins by learning the symbols from 1 to 10 and the physical quantity of 1 to 10 - and then they are associated. This process is continued all the way through to 1000.

Once the student knows the teen numbers, they are presented with the addition, multiplication, subtraction, and division operations in a concrete form. When working on these operations the student literally carries, borrows and changes the quantities involved.

Students progress through mathematical activities, from the more physical to the more abstract, at their own pace, allowing as much repetition as needed. Tools like golden beads and the strip board help young students add, subtract, multiply, and divide numbers into the thousands.

## **Culture**

Culture is made up of several different subject areas: Botany, Zoology, Geography, Music, History etc. Students learn about the world around them through various Montessori materials. The use of puzzle maps, atlases and globes allow the student to learn the many different aspects of a continent or the name of a particular country. In addition, students also learn about each country's flag, terrain and animals. Students are introduced to land and water formations, weather and many other facts about our wonderful world.

## **Art and Music**

Manor Montessori recognizes that music is an integral part of our cultural experience. The Montessori bells are in the classrooms for the students to learn various melodies, scales and tunes. Students also learn the names of the different instruments and explore their different sounds. The students sing every day during our group gathering and work hard to prepare a musical presentation for the annual Winter Concert.

## **Physical Education**

A healthy mind needs a healthy body. The Casa students have one and a half hours of outdoor play every day.



## **Enrichment**

Manor Montessori offers dynamic after school clubs each term. These clubs provide opportunities for our students to grow outside of academics and to deepen their friendships. Our clubs are diverse: dancing, yoga, art, Pawsitively Pets, cooking and more.

The Casa studentren usually go on two excursions off campus. (eg. a farm and Center Island ) In addition, special guests come into the school to speak and do demonstrations for the students (eg. Puppet Man, firefighters).