

MONTESSORI EDUCATION AT RAINBOW CONNECTION

What is Montessori?

It is educating the whole child covering all aspects of development - intellectual, social, physical, emotional and spiritual. Building upon a child's desire to learn and to discover their Individual needs. Rainbow connection is providing all the materials and equipments, which have been incorporated to teach a child the Montessori way, thus developing understanding, dexterity and skill each time a child uses these beautiful pieces of apparatus. In the Montessori preschool, five distinct areas constitute the prepared environment. These methods are contemporary and comparable with nationally and internationally recognized method of Early Childhood Education. These include:

Practical Life

Activities a child encounters in daily living, i.e., pouring, sponge squeezing, and buttoning. These exercises build self-esteem.



Language

Children are immersed in language throughout the day at the Montessori Preschool. They participate in conversations, songs, poems, stories and discussions.



Sensorial

Each sensorial material isolates one quality, such as size, volume, width, length, touch, temperature, weight, color, shape or sound. Repetition is encouraged to allow the child to achieve mastery



Mathematics

Basic mathematical foundations of order, sequence, patterns, relationships, quantity and dimension are developed in the Practical Life and Sensorial areas. Now the child is ready to go on to add numerical value to the concepts already absorbed.



Cultural

It exposes the child to basics in geography, history, and life sciences. Music, art, and movement education are part of the integrated cultural curriculum.



Why Montessori Education is better than normal Kindergarten Education.

Montessori emphasizes learning through all five senses, not just through listening, watching or reading. Children in Montessori classes learn at their own, individual pace and according to their own choice of activities from many possibilities. Learning is an exciting process of discovery, leading to concentration, motivation, self-discipline and a love of learning. Only trained and qualified teachers can implement Montessori education, using the specialized learning equipment, which you will find only at Rainbow Connection.

Is Montessori good for children with learning disabilities?

Montessori is designed to help all children reach their fullest potential at their own unique pace. A classroom whose children have varying abilities is a community in which everyone learns from one another and everyone contributes. More over, multi age

grouping allows each child to find his or her pace without feeling “ahead” or “behind” in relation to peers.

Are Montessori children successful later in life?

It has been proved through research that a Montessori child is well prepared for later life academically, socially and emotionally. Also scoring well in standardized tests, Montessori child is ranked above average on such criteria as following direction, turning in work on time, listening attentively, using basic skills, showing responsibility, asking questions and generally showing enthusiasm for leaning and adapting to new situations. We the teachers and staff at Rainbow Connection are aiming for the child to achieve and succeed in all that.

What does Rainbow Connection offer?

From the earliest age we encourage children to practice self-control and acquire a concern for others that will help them to gain the maximum benefit from their educational environment and allow their fellow pupils the opportunity to do likewise.

Our program of staff development helps maintain a lively and stimulating environment and the framework of meetings and consultations, both formal and informal, ensures constant awareness of the individual needs of the pupils.

We co-operate closely with parents in furthering this harmonious and compassionate climate in which their children may flourish. It is this “environment for learning” that we, and many parents, believe to be the greatest benefit and independent school can offer a child.

“Be careful, a child’s soul is like a bright mirror on which

any breath can cast a shadow."

What are the goals of Montessori Education?

The main purpose of a Montessori school is to provide a carefully planned, stimulating environment which will help the child develop an excellent foundation for creative learning. The specific goals for the children who attend a Montessori school are:

- Developing a positive attitude toward school.
- Helping each child develop self-confidence.
- Assisting each child in building a habit of concentration.
- Fostering an abiding curiosity.
- Developing habits of initiative and persistence.
- Fostering inner security and sense of order in the child.

What is Rainbow Connection's Philosophy?

- To shape the child in a way that assists the natural development of his/her personality.
- To promote healthy, physical, social and emotional development
- To create warm, affectionate, environment for the child, whereby they have an opportunity to form attachments to other adults, which, is vital for their natural development.
- To provide the child a high quality education through spontaneous activity and independent learning.
- To provide a well-organized and enjoyable start as children become more Independent and integrated into school.
- To ensure that every child is well cared for and given Individual

attention and provide and opportunity for the young pupils to be introduced gradually to full time education, according to their own needs and stage of development.

- To build trust and partnership between home and school and provide a happy secure start in an environment where every child is cared for and valued.

What are the benefits of Montessori Education at Rainbow connection?

- Self-correcting materials within the environment - Children learn through their own errors to make the correct decision versus having the teacher point it out to them.
- Individual learning takes place within the environment - Montessori recognizes that each child learns at a different pace and allows that growth to take place.
- There is an emphasis on concrete learning rather than on abstract learning - Children need to experience concepts in concrete "hands on" ways.
- It is a child-centered environment - All the materials are easily within the child's reach, placed on shelves at their levels. The tables and chairs are small enough for the children to sit comfortably while the pictures and decorations are placed at the children's eye level.

"The greatest help you can give your children is freedom to go about their own work in their own way"

