



South Shore Montessori, Inc

Montessori children are unusually adaptable. They have learned to work independently and in groups. Since they've been encouraged to make decisions from an early age, these children are problem-solvers who can make choices and manage their time well. They have also been encouraged to exchange ideas and to discuss their work freely with others. Good communication skills ease the way in new settings.

Research has shown that the best predictor of future success is a sense of self-esteem. Montessori programs, based on self-directed, non-competitive activities, help children develop good self-images and the confidence to face challenges and change with optimism.

Montessori

Emphasis on cognitive and social development

Teacher has unobtrusive role in classroom

Mainly individual instruction

Mixed age grouping

Grouping encourages children to teach and help each other

Child chooses own work

Child discovers own concepts from self-teaching materials

Child works as long as he wishes

Child sets own learning pace

Child reinforces own learning by repetition of work and internal feeling of success

Multi-sensory materials for physical exploration

Organized program for learning care of self and environment

Child can work where he chooses, move around and talk at will (yet not disturb work of others). Group work is voluntary

Organized program for parents to understand the Montessori philosophy and participate in the learning process

Traditional

Emphasis on social development

Teacher is center of classroom as "controller"

Group and individual instruction

Same age grouping

Most teaching done by teacher

Curriculum structured for child

Child is guided to concepts by teacher

Child generally allotted specific time for chosen project work

Instruction pace usually set by group norm

Learning is reinforced externally by repetition and rewards

Fewer materials for sensory development

Less emphasis on self-care instruction

Child usually assigned own chair, encouraged to participate, sit still and listen during group sessions

Voluntary parent involvement