

The Curriculum at LMBS

Practical Life:

The practical life exercises fulfill the child's plea: "Help me do it myself" Through exercises such as scrubbing, polishing, and cutting, children gain confidence and mastery of the environment. The young child uses practical life materials in order to develop his hand-eye coordination and fine motor hand skill. These skills establish concentration, order, coordination and independence which provide the foundation for academic learning.



***Food Preparation:** When children begin to internalize the practical life skill, it is natural for them to seek work levels that use these skills and that contain broader responsibilities. The children can prepare individual snacks and prepare and serve snacks to their classmates.

Sensorial: The sensorial materials are designed to refine the child's senses in distinguishing visual cues of size, shape and color, tactile cues of texture, weight and temperature, and auditory, olfactory and gustatory cues. Maria Montessori called the beautiful, precise, sensorial materials "*Materialized abstraction.*" Isolating one sensorial quality at a time, these materials allow children to create order, concentration, coordination, and independence and the ability to make finer and finer distinctions in observing the world.



Language: Language is a spontaneous acquisition for children. Language is a primary means of communication, and the child is given many varied experiences and "labels" that enrich vocabulary. Children learn letter sounds and beginning reading with little effort during the appropriate sensitive period.



Math: The Montessori materials introduce the children to the concepts of quantity, symbols, place value, fractions, and geometry through sensory-motor experiences.



Science: The young child with an absorbent mind has been taking in information about everything in the environment. The Montessori lessons extend these experiences and help the children classify their observations. As they are presented with the big picture, they discover the relationships between things, not just isolate details.



Geography: The children learn about the earth and its features and how those features affect human life. They also learn about the human activities on earth in political geography. They learn that people all over the world satisfy the same basic needs (shelter, nutrition, transportation) in a variety of ways.



Music: As a form of expression, children sing, play rhythm instruments, listen, and dance to a variety of musical styles.

Spanish: The bilingual teachers introduce the Spanish language in both formal and informal instructions. The older children (Mariposa room) have a 30 minute lesson Monday thru Friday.



In the playground:

