

Center for Guided Montessori Studies

Guiding Principles of Montessori Education

1. Provide an environment that encourages independence and allows each child the freedom to direct their own life and explore their own path to empowerment.
2. Support each child's natural learning process by focusing on their developmental needs and interests, using the child's "Sensitive Periods" as your guide.
3. Create a diverse, multi-age learning community.
4. Help the child cultivate concentration. Respect engagement wherever it occurs.
5. Make learning a springboard to spontaneous exploration and discovery, creative self-expression and community service.
6. Foster balanced and broad band human capability: spiritual awareness, ethical decision making, emotional intelligence, executive functions, social responsibility, and a healthy lifestyle.
7. Provide freedom of movement and engage the senses.
8. Foster cooperation not competition.
9. Keep conscious of the delicate balance of freedom within limits, providing positive and respectful guidance to support the child's development of inner discipline, strength of character, and respect for others.
10. Help each child become a peaceful individual and peacemaker within the classroom, local, and global communities.
11. Be a living example of "normalization". Use daily reflective practices to gain self-awareness of what you bring to the classroom and to spiritually prepare yourself each day for each child.
12. Trust the child to show their true nature and needs through meaningful work. Observe and honor each "tiny and delicate manifestation of the opening life in the child's soul".
13. Prepare and present the educational environment with grace, order, and patience.