



MONTESSORI CASA
INTERNATIONAL

Pre-Primary Program: The Best Beginning for the 'little porters'



The Pre-Primary Program at Montessori Casa International (MCI) is a home-like environment in which children ages 15 months to 3 years explore their independence and develop self esteem and social skills. The classroom has been designed to meet the physical needs of these young children and provide them, during their earliest and most impressionable years, with a safe place to work on important physical (gross and fine motor) skills and cognitive processes. The bathrooms have been modified to allow independence in toileting and hand washing. The furnishings and materials are age appropriate and aesthetically pleasing. The activities follow a logical sequence of progression and are presented to the child when s/he is ready for them. Within this carefully prepared environment, the youngest members of our school community engage in purposeful and meaningful work that provides a wonderful preparation for entering the Primary class. In the meanwhile, the pace is simpler and slower than the Primary Montessori classrooms.

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The Montessori Pre-Primary Curriculum is composed of five main areas:

- Language Development
- Hand-Eye Coordination
- Gross Motor Coordination
- Practical Life Activities
- Art/Music



Montessori indicates in *The Secret of Childhood* that it is during this period that the child's sensitive periods for movement, order, small detail and language unfold, and that it is the adults' duty to support them. In the classroom this translates to providing the children with:

- Endless opportunities to walk, run, push, pull and carry.
- Time to experience and explore materials and textures.
- Opportunities to learn the names of and describe the objects being explored through books, songs, games and outings.

The children will be in the hands of trained teachers that are considerate and respectful of their efforts; that encourage and nurture their interests; who make



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sure they are safe without limiting their experiences and undermining their efforts.



Through the experiences of attending the Pre-Primary Program, the child will have the opportunity to develop self-confidence, independence, coordination, and concentration required for a graceful transition into the Primary Montessori classroom.

For more information please contact the school at 720-532-0391

or email info@mcidenver.edu.



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