

Join GPMS

If you'd like to support the Greater Pittsburgh Montessori community, please join us. We work to

- Further the education of Montessori teachers.
- Educate the parents of children who attend Montessori schools.
- Increase the general public's awareness of Montessori education.

Benefits of Membership include discounted event registration, continuing education opportunities, voting privileges, membership directory, networking, support and resources.

Annual Membership Dues

\$15.00 per Head Teacher, Assistant Teacher or School Administrator

\$10.00 per Student or Intern

Visit GPMontessoriSociety.org to become a GPMS member.

"The first duty of an education is to stir up life, but leave it free to develop."

-Maria Montessori

For more information, please visit

- www.GPMontessoriSociety.org
- www.Montessori-NAMTA.org
- www.AMSHQ.org
- www.Montessori-AMI.org

For a current list of area Montessori schools, please visit www.GPMontessoriSociety.org.

Serving Montessorians in the Greater Pittsburgh area since 1979

GREATER PITTSBURGH MONTESSORI SOCIETY



Web:
www.GPMontessoriSociety.org

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Montessori Teachers' Association
www.Montessori-NAMTA.org

Montessori Message

GPMontessoriSociety.org

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"The real teachers of the Montessori method are the children themselves."

- Maria Montessori

What Makes Montessori *Different*

Montessori (pronounced MON-tuh-SOR-ee) is a comprehensive approach to education from birth through adulthood based on the observation of children's needs in a variety of cultures all around the world.

Beginning her work a century ago, **Dr. Maria Montessori** developed this art and science after coming to an understanding of children's natural learning tendencies as they unfold in "**prepared environments**" for multi-age groups (0-3, 3-6, 6-9, 9-12 and 12-14).

The Montessori environment provides specially designed, manipulative "**materials for development**" that invite children to engage in learning activities of their own **individual choice**. Under the guidance of a trained teacher, children in a Montessori classroom learn by **making discoveries** with the materials, cultivating concentration, motivation, self-discipline and a **love of learning**.

Montessori Environment

1. Prepared kinesthetic materials with built-in control of error, specially developed reference materials
2. Working and learning matched to social development of child
3. Unified, internationally developed curriculum
4. Integrated subjects and learning based on developmental psychology
5. Uninterrupted work cycles
6. Multi-age classrooms
7. Students active, vocal, with periods of spontaneous quiet, freedom to move
8. School meets needs of children
9. Special help comes to students
10. Process focus, skills checklists, mastery benchmarks

Conventional School

1. Textbooks, pencil and paper, worksheets and dittos
2. Working and learning without emphasis on social development
3. Narrow, unit-driven curriculum
4. Individual subjects
5. Block time, period lessons
6. Single-graded classrooms
7. Students passive, quiet, at desks
8. Students fit mold of school
9. Students leave for special help
10. Product-focused report cards

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