



Diablo Valley Montessori School

February 1, 2023

Headlines

Message from Jayne

Go ALL IN for DVMS

What's Next for My Two-Year-Old?

The Montessori Advantage

Important Dates

Message from Jayne

Welcome to February! This month we have many exciting and important events. The Preschool/Kindergarten Parent Nights are continuing along with parent classroom observations. The parent education evening, "What's Next for My Two-Year-Old?" is next Tuesday, the 7th at 6:00pm. Re enrollment for all children and siblings begins on February 8 and is available until February 22. Be sure to note the details below in the "Important Dates" section.

February is also a time to celebrate Black History Month. Montessori education has always placed value on the uniqueness of each individual and sought to develop life-long learners who are in pursuit not only of their passions, but of a common good for all and good stewardship of our planet. We believe our community is broadened, strengthened, and enlightened by diversity in all its forms—including thought, race, religion, identity, passions, and challenges. This belief is inherent in the values and principles of the Montessori philosophy.

The Sunflower Class best described how our classrooms recognize the importance of diversity every day:

Sunflower class has always made it practice to represent different cultures. Exposing the children to different ethnicities, cultures, skin tones, hair

texture, schools in different countries etc. is just the foundation of what there is to learn about inclusivity and being kind to your neighbor. We believe it's important for even our youngest children to see not just themselves, but others represented as well. So please know while everyone is highlighting Black history this month we do it on a daily basis, with our book selections are representation on the walls, and our music we share with the children.

If you want ideas of how you too can expose your child/children to diversity, here are a few:

- *Venture outside to neighboring park to play*
- *Art where Black people are represented*
- *Diverse book selections*
- *Music created or sung and played by Black people*

In Partnership,
Jayne

Go ALL IN for DVMS

Last week we launched ALL IN, a streamlined fundraising effort for the auction that will cover two tickets at the early bird rate, your contribution for one student's classroom fund-a-need project and the purchase of one student's individual art project.

If you go ALL IN you will be automatically entered to win a \$1,000 tuition credit!

Donations of \$500 and above will also generously support our capital improvement fund. Please see the attached flyer for more details and use this link to go ALL IN for the auction:

[click here](#)

We hope you will go ALL IN for DVMS Today!



DVMS
FIESTA
SPRING AUCTION 2023

GO ALL IN FOR DVMS

TO STREAMLINE OUR FUNDRAISING EFFORTS AND PROVIDE A CLEAR, TRANSPARENT ASK,
WE DEVELOPED A PACKAGE WE CALL "GO ALL IN".

RATHER THAN A NEW DONATION REQUEST EVERY FEW WEEKS, THE "ALL IN" PACKAGE WILL COVER
COVER TWO TICKETS TO THE ACTION AT THE EARLY BIRD RATE, YOUR CONTRIBUTION FOR ONE STUDENT'S
CLASSROOM FUND-A-NEED PROJECT AND THE PURCHASE OF ONE STUDENT'S INDIVIDUAL ART PROJECT.

DONATIONS OF \$500 AND ABOVE WILL ALSO GENEROUSLY SUPPORT OUR GENERAL FUND
THAT CONTRIBUTES TO SCHOOLWIDE CAMPUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND CLASSROOM SUPPLIES.

ALL IN: \$450

ALL IN SILVER: \$500

ALL IN GOLD: \$750

ALL IN PLATINUM: \$1,000

WE HOPE YOU WILL GO ALL IN!

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO SIGN UP TODAY



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS YEAR'S AUCTION, PLEASE VISIT WWW.DVMS.ORG/GIVING/SPRING-AUCTION

IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE STUDENT, PLEASE CONSIDER INCREASING YOUR DONATION
BY \$200 PER ADDITIONAL CHILD TO COVER THEIR CLASSROOM FUND-A-NEED AND ART PROJECT.

What's Next for My Two Year Old?

Calling all parents of two-year-olds. Please join us on Tuesday, February 7 at 6:00pm for a special parent education evening, "What's Next for my Two-Year-Old?". We will walk you through how to support your child as they prepare to move up to the preschool program. As parents, there are a few key differences between the IT House and the preschool/Kindergarten classrooms to get ready for too.

We look forward to inviting you into one of the classrooms for this informative evening!



The Montessori Advantage

From a child's first day in a Montessori Infant classroom they are respected as a capable, intelligent person with a deep desire to learn.

The Global Montessori Network blog explains this Montessori advantage in detail, discussing the prepared environment and ways parents can bring Montessori into the home. Excerpts, as well as the link to the full article are below.

How Does Montessori Education Foster the Development of Cognitive Skills in Children?

Intellectual growth or cognitive development is enabled by freedom, structure and order, exposure to the surroundings and a peaceful environment. When children are offered new tasks, lessons, opportunities, they tend to develop not by remembering but by understanding.

Montessori education is well suited for the development of cognitive skills from early childhood days. In a Montessori classroom, not only features of the basic education but also lessons in practical life, sensorial, language, art, science, culture, and music are all part of a diverse curriculum. These lessons are delivered in a progression from simple to complicated and from concrete to abstract. This fosters the development of cognitive skills rapidly.

What is The Montessori Theory?

The Montessori Method of Education is based on the guiding principles of freedom, order, choice, peer teaching, free movement, creativity, independence, self-correction, and intellect.

Maria Montessori believed that learning and growing are inseparable and created materials that use real actions and objects to translate abstract ideas into concrete form. Children in multi-age classrooms, learn by observing and interacting with these materials and peers. Long uninterrupted working periods help them concentrate and solve problems.

How does Montessori Education Foster Cognitive Skills?

Dr. Maria Montessori created instructional materials and a learning environment that cultivated the innate drive of the children to learn. The children are given the freedom to select their learning materials or activities from the shelf and long work periods help them explore and think more about solving the problem. In other words, a Montessori curriculum includes many such resources and activities that are helpful for cognitive development.

A child needs to get involved in day-to-day activities and interactions to stimulate cognitive development. Here are 5 aspects of the Montessori curriculum that play a key role in fostering the development of cognitive skills in children.

Tips To Develop Cognitive Skills In Children

Apart from the resources that are offered in Montessori Classrooms, some basic tasks done with teachers or parents also foster cognitive development.

**Allow the children to make mistakes to help them learn better. Celebrate their success.*

**Provide them with a variety of activities on a shelf. It promotes independence and decision-making skills.*

**Children love to imitate adults. Invite them to do age-appropriate household chores such as cleaning leaves, folding clothes, cleaning tables to*

build their autonomy and confidence.

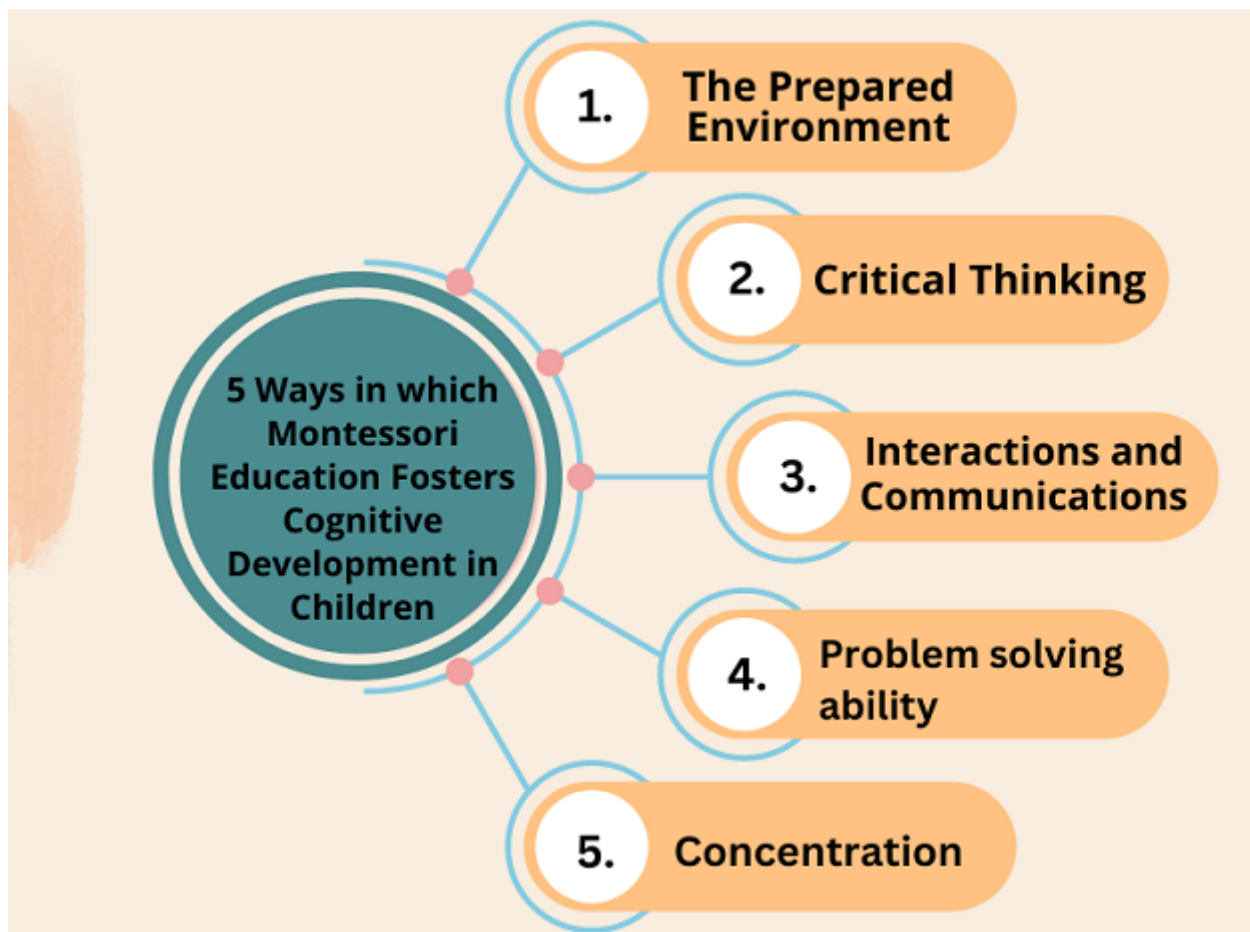
**When introducing any activity, do not rush in with a solution. Let the child build interest and solve the problem at their own pace.*

**Build a child's vocabulary and interest by asking questions like "what happens next?", "what is this?" or "how will we solve this problem?".*

**Introduce the child to open-ended activities and encourage them to solve problems with a different perspective.*

**Expand the child's interests by offering them books, crafts, games, or excursions based on their interests. For example, if a child is fascinated by cars, provide them with additional books, crafts, games, and excursions related to cars.*

To read the full Global Montessori Network article [click here](#).



Important Dates!



February 7: "What's Next for My Two-Year-Old?" Parent Education evening 6:00pm - 7:30pm at DVMS

February 8 - 22: **Re-Enrollment and Sibling Registration**

February 8: Lavender Parent Night 6:00pm

February 9: Petunia Parent Night 5:30pm

February 16: Honeysuckle Parent Night 5:30pm

February 17: February 20: Presidents' Day Holiday DVMS Closed

February 21: DVMS Board of Directors Meeting 7:30pm

February 22: Jasmin Parent Night 5:30pm

February 23: Daisy Parent Night 6:00pm

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