



"Free the child's potential and you will transfer him/her into the world." - Maria Montessori

A Checklist for Parents Observing Berwyn Montessori

Use this checklist as a guide to understanding what you're seeing in the Berwyn Montessori classroom.

Mark + if observed - if not observed

The classroom atmosphere is organized, attractive and every item is within reach of the children.

The teacher acts as a guide...works with individual children and is not giving lessons to groups of children.

Children take care of the environment...polishing, dusting, cleaning and organizing.

The children use hands-on materials, no worksheets.

Children are working with a variety of materials.

When a child is not working...a choice is given between two materials.

Children have opportunities to be creative...artwork.

Children are active learners...children are not learning by drilling.

Children are working for long periods of time...they are not disturbed and told to stop working.

The child has a variety of ways to work...sit on a chair, sit on the floor, sit on a stool or standing at a table.

Teachers prepare the environment in the morning. Everything is ready and available for the children.

Children give lessons to each other.

Children are independent.

Children are interacting with each other.

Shelves are organized and not cluttered.

___ Montessori materials are on the shelves...no toys and plastic items.

___ There is a 3-hour work period in the morning...with no interruptions.

___ Group gatherings include: songs, stories, music appreciation, art appreciation, opportunities for sharing, history, poetry, general conversation.

___ Children work at their own pace.

___ The teacher is trained in the Montessori method...AMI...Association Montessori International.

___ The classroom has mixed ages 2-1/2 - 6 years for the primary class. Children are not grouped by age.

___ All members of the community respect each other. Teachers demonstrate respect and manners throughout the day.

___ Children are respectful of the teacher and the environment

___ Children have daily opportunities to explore nature.

___ Children are enthusiastic and enjoy learning.

Thank you for taking the time to observe the children of Berwyn Montessori. We look forward to scheduling a meeting within the next 5 days.