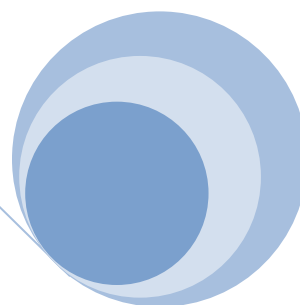
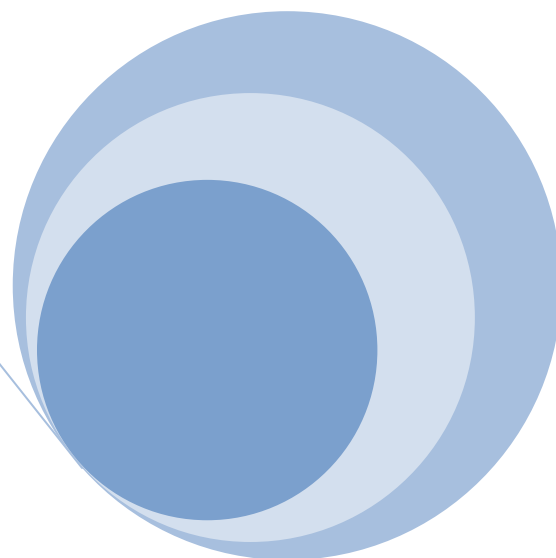


MONTESSORI
TEACHERS COLLEGE



Montessori Teachers College

Montessori Education Week

February 23 – 27, 2015

Ideas For Teachers and Administrators

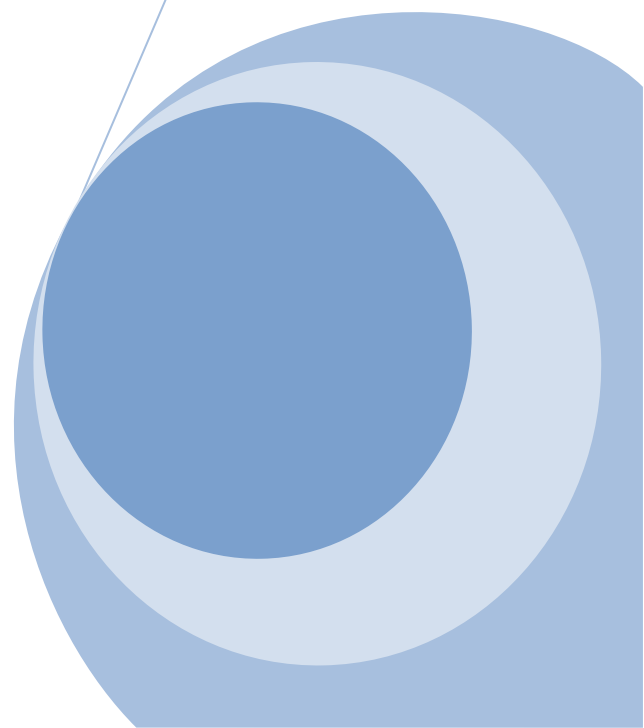


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Newspaper 'Letter to the Editor'

Send children's letters on what they like about their Montessori experience to the local newspapers.

Create your very own piece of Montessori Material!

- Cut out sandpaper letters and let the children mount them on heavy cardboard, just as Montessori did.
- Cut a moveable alphabet out of construction paper.
- Prepare a paper stamp game set.

Art

1. Prepare special bound booklets of your very best metal inset work to mail to a corresponding Montessori school in another country.
2. Prepare large puzzle map tracings, metal inset drawings, stories, and paintings to be mounted beautifully on matting board for formal display in the school.

Music

Sing about friendship, kindness, and good work. Make up a song or poem about Montessori with the children.

Cooking

Prepare the kind of meals that Dr. Montessori loved to make for all her friends: pasta, fresh greens, and warm loaves of Italian bread. For dessert, serve a mild Italian cheese and sliced fresh fruits like grapes, apples, oranges, and pears. Invite your classroom parents/grandparents to join the class for lunch. Talk very briefly, before the food is served, about Maria Montessori, retelling in simple terms the story of her life and the beginning of the Children's House. Ask the children to tell why they love going to a Montessori school and show their favourite piece of work.

Poster Design

Invite the children to create 8.5" X 14" posters that express what they like about their Montessori experience, school, or their Montessori teachers. These can be done during Montessori Education Week or beforehand, so they can be displayed in your front foyer. If possible, contact a mall, library, or other community space and ask if you can display the poster at their location.

Whole - School History Lesson: Maria Montessori

Have your Casa/Lower Elementary class do some research on the life of Maria Montessori. Each class can create a portion of a timeline using mural paper. Upper Elementary students can create a skit illustrating pivotal experiences in her life. Host an assembly to share their activities with your whole school!

Biographies on Maria Montessori

Read a short biography to your Casa students and have them draw pictures about Maria Montessori and their favourite Montessori material. Older students can research Maria Montessori and create their own biography to read to younger students.

Best Reason or Slogan

Have the students write in 25 words or less what they like best about Montessori Education or create a slogan to promote the school.

Graduates

Send letters to the alumni of your school. Invite them to write about how their Montessori experiences have benefited them in their post-Montessori lives. Invite them back for a reunion celebration during Montessori Education Week to share these experiences with present students, parents, and the community. Create a special book where their writings and pictures will be kept and displayed.

Share Memories

Have older student or graduates share memories of growing up in a Montessori environment with younger children.

Photo Display

Have a parent or students photograph students at work in their Montessori Environment and display these photos with Montessori quotes or captions in your halls. Or have the students draw a piece of Montessori material in use (like all those sketches in your Montessori albums!) and tell what they are learning. Display this art work!

Open House

Schedule a Thursday evening or Saturday afternoon as an "Open House" for your local community. Distribute flyers in your neighbourhood; advertise in the local community paper or advertisement supplement. Serve refreshments, display children's work, invite a child or two in each room to participate by demonstrating the use of materials with a teacher nearby and available for questions.

Guest Lecturer

Invite a guest lecturer to discuss issues related to Montessori. Provide refreshments and childcare. Advertise this lecture in your flyers on Montessori Education Week. Piggyback this speaking engagement with your open house.

Library Book Presentation

Present a Montessori book or two to a local library. Notify the local newspaper and include this event in the press release promoting Montessori Education Week. Be sure to have someone available to take pictures.

Care to Share Program

Have parents or former parents, students or former students give testimonials about their Montessori school experience and publish this along with the picture of the person in your school newsletter or local newspaper. You can also post these testimonials on your website in a PowerPoint presentation.

Montessori Quote

Send home a different Montessori quote every day of Montessori Education Week.

Cookbook

Have parents assist students in creating a student or parent/student cookbook for the school that could be sold or given to present parents and newly enrolled families.

Parenting Book

Have parents, staff members, and students work together to create a "Parent's Idea" book listing parenting books and videos, recipes for play dough, children's favourite books, library story time and other community children's programs - all sorts of parenting tips and information. These can be made available to current and prospective families.

Montessori Walk for Peace

Organise a "Montessori Walk for Peace" with other schools in your area. Invite parents, friends and students to meet at a convenient location for the walk.

Peace Pole

Create a peace pole inscribed with children's messages for world peace with the hope that all who view it will be inspired to work towards a peaceful world.

Exhibits

Contact a nearby mall and make arrangements to man a table during Montessori Education Week. Montessori materials, pictures of children working and children's work can be displayed. A Montessori video can also be shown. Libraries and community centres may have display areas where pictures, material and work can be displayed.

Performances

Make arrangements to visit a long term care facility in your area. Older adults enjoy seeing and interacting with children. A short sing song or play can be presented. Older children can read with the residents.

Getting to Know You Day

Invite nearby neighbours, residential and commercial, to stop in for refreshments and a tour. Distribute child made invitations.

Montessori Education Week – Peace Lesson

Title: Characteristics of a Peaceful Person

Age: Early Childhood to adult

Aims:

- To identify characteristics of a peaceful person
- To introduce new vocabulary
- To discover ways to be a peaceful person
- To introduce acrostic poetry
- To introduce synonyms

Preparation: Provide peaceful, relaxing music

Presentation:

Gather a group of children.

Pause to listen to the peaceful music.

Show the children the word “Peaceful”.

Ask the children what makes a peaceful person.

Acknowledge their contributions.

Show the children the letter “p” and ask the children for words that begin with “p” that describe a peaceful person.

Record the words and place them beside the “p”.

Continue – show the next letter, the “e”.

Again ask for words that begin with “e” that make a peaceful person.

Continue with each letter until you have spelled PEACEFUL.

Letters and words created can be placed on the shelf in a basket for children to take out and match again by themselves.

Children can copy the letters and the words on paper or in their language book.

Children can create their own word PEACEFUL and list words that begin with each letter and record.

Points of Interest

- the music
- the words next to the correct letter
- describing peaceful people or things

Control of Error: Large letters PEACEFUL and words matching to them begin with the same letter.

Language: Any words that the children or you share.

See next page for example.

Acrostic Poem

P atience

E ncouragement

A cceptance

C ommunication

E mpathy

F air

U nderstanding

L oving