



Lower Elementary

Ideas for Educational Support at Home

One of the foundational principles of Montessori education is Maria Montessori's command to "follow the child". She believed that by carefully observing and listening to children, adults would gain important information in how to assist children at their particular stage of development.

Our children are extremely fortunate to have parents that do watch, listen and respond appropriately to their needs. Casual, informal, everyday conversations allow children to open up about their thoughts, feelings and what they are learning about their world. A parent's time and attention are a child's best gift. Thank you for your dedication.

Listed below are some activity suggestions that promote close family interactions and reinforce classroom learning, too.

MATH – Philosophy – Manipulative materials are used, for as long as a child needs them, to aid in a deep understanding of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and other concepts. FOR HOME USE: You can use dry beans, pieces of dry spaghetti, coins (pennies=ones, dimes=tens, nickels=hundreds, quarters=thousands). For the processes, here are two types of problems:

2432	Static does not	2146	Dynamic - has
+2134	have exchanges	+2138	exchanges or
4566	or regrouping	4284	regrouping

ALSO,

- Fact games – flash cards, oral quizzing
- Board games and card games with numbers
- Recipes help reinforce fractions
- Money and time games

LANGUAGE – Philosophy – Read, Read, Read! We know how important it is to read to our children and have them read to us. It is also important for children to see the connections between reading and everyday life.

Books on tape	Board games like Scrabble Junior, etc.
Recipes (Jello, simple cookies)	Instruction booklets for toys/games
Road signs	Read aloud at bedtime

WRITING – Children also need to be encouraged to write. When writing, ask you child to write down the sounds they hear. Things to write:

Everyday notes to family members	Letters, thank you notes, apology notes
Grocery list	A special journal or diary

