

Around the Sun Montessori Preschool

A Learning Experience for a Lifetime!



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***“Free the
child’s
potential, and
you will
transform him
into the
world.”
Maria Montessori***

Our Philosophy

We believe the first years of a child’s life constitute the most critical period for his/her self development. Further, we believe that children learn at their own rate through real-life and hands on experiences. A child-centered prepared environment best enables a young child to learn basic concepts, skills, and values. Encouraging every child’s sense of individual worth is an essential part of the learning process - if a child feels good about themselves, they will feel good about learning! Children learn best by doing, with opportunities for choice, experimentation and problem solving. Children should be guided in a predictable, yet flexible environment that allows for independence and creativity. Our goal is to encourage active, self-directed learning so that each child can reach their full potential, whatever that potential may be!

Our Mission

Around the Sun Montessori Preschool strives to form a partnership with parents to fuel their child’s natural desire to learn. We provide a safe, respectful and developmentally appropriate environment based on the teachings of Maria Montessori and reflective of Christian ideals. We strive to bring out each child’s individuality, recognizing that children carry within themselves the potential of the person they will someday become. Our mission is to serve children by offering opportunities to learn through the exploration of challenging materials, hands on experiences and by providing positive guidance and encouragement.

Our Goals

To provide a safe, nurturing, and comfortable environment where children can appreciate their world through art, music, mathematics, science, language, practical life, dramatic play and social experiences.

To teach Christian values and instill within our students a sense of responsibility, respect for each other, respect for their environment and provide an atmosphere in which children can joyfully learn and interact with one another.

To see each child as a unique creation of God with his or her own spiritual, intellectual, emotional and social needs and to appreciate and respect all children, regardless of race, religion, nationality, or ethnic background.

To stimulate independent, intellectual and creative growth through the use of appropriate materials with positive guidance and encouragement.

To learn patience and cooperation with others in the classroom by using courteous social skills and appropriate behavior.

To teach and instill the Maria Montessori philosophies to both children and parents so that the child’s learning, independent growth and respect will not begin/end at our doors, but will seamlessly continue at home.



Polishing Pennies

Practical Life

Activities in the Practical Life area are designed to teach a child to care about and respect himself and his environment. Materials will allow children to develop small muscle strength and control, improve eye-hand coordination, and teach left-to-right progression.

Children will have opportunities to expand their life skills through activities involving spooning, grasping, screwing, threading, dressing, washing, sweeping, folding,

cooking, flower arranging, table setting and many other practical life experiences.

The wide variety of manipulatives offered in the Practical Life area encourage children's growth in fine motor and problem solving skills. By exploring and experimenting with these materials, children will have opportunities to expand their curiosity and feel good about their accomplishments.



Matching Color Tiles

Sensorial

Children learn to understand the world around them through the constant use of their senses. Activities in the Sensorial area provide an opportunity for children to observe the differences and similarities in what they see, hear, feel, taste and smell.

The sensorial materials in the classroom help children to distinguish, to categorize, and to relate new

information to what they already know. Through work with the sensorial materials, the child is given the keys to classifying the things around him, which leads to the child making his own experiences in his environment.



Golden Bead Decimal System

Math

The activities in the math area give children a hands-on approach to developing basic math concepts. Children are indirectly preparing for math as they discover similarities, compare differences, find sequences, and explore the world around them.

Math activities stimulate a child's inquisitiveness, a crucial factor in the learning process.

As the child develops in the Montessori environment, she is ready to encounter more concrete math materials in which to explore more abstract thought, beginning with quantity. Dr. Montessori discovered that a child who could count and recognize the symbols 1-9 could count in quantities of hundreds and thousands. The Montessori "Golden Bead" material was developed to give children the concrete exploration of the decimal system.

Science and Nature

Science promotes cognitive development through stimulating a child's curiosity. Children are given hands-on, real life activities that either have a predetermined conclusion (teaching cause and effect) or are open-ended and encourage a sense of discovery. Montessori science curriculum includes an introduction to botany, zoology, chemistry, physics, geology and astronomy.

With encouragement and a solid foundation, even very young children are ready and anxious to investigate their world, to wonder at the interdependence of living things, to explore the ways in which the physical universe works, and to project how it all may have come to be.



Solar System 3-Part Cards

Culture

The Culture area includes Geography, History and Cultural Awareness. Children gain an awareness of the world around them by exploring other countries and their customs.

As children explore large wooden puzzle maps, they gradually learn the names of the countries and continents.

*"If a child can
imagine a fairy and
a fairyland, it will
not be difficult for
him to imagine
America"*

The Absorbent Mind,
Maria Montessori.



Asia Puzzle Map

Language

Children develop language through meaningful experiences: listening to stories, poems, fingerplays, and having many opportunities to talk and be listened to. The development of language begins with speech and progresses into writing, then into reading.

Writing Readiness

Writing readiness activities are designed to build a child's interest and skills by

strengthening eye-hand coordination, fine motor skills, and understanding of printed symbols. Children are given opportunities to experiment with writing through tracing, copying, and drawing.

Reading Readiness

Children are given many opportunities to experience the relationship between written and spoken language through the use of object boxes, sound/symbol activities, the movable alphabet, etc.



Movable Alphabet

Art and Creativity

Art is an important part of the Montessori curriculum, allowing for self-expression and fine motor development. Children have an opportunity to explore colors, textures, and patterns, thus developing their visual and sensory abilities.

Because art activities are open-ended activities in which children cannot "fail," they can help children grow in self-

esteem. They are also very good for preschool children who are not yet ready to make "real"-looking things. Preschool children are more concerned with the "process" of doing than with the "product" they create. Children become creative not by what they produce, but by what they attempt and explore.



Easel Painting

Circle Time

In the Montessori Classroom, the day begins and ends with a circle time. This is a time for the classroom community to come together and to greet one another. It's also a time where the teacher might review concepts such as calendar, weather, letter of the week, or introduce a new work or group lesson. Each day, stories are read, songs are sung, poems are recited, or bodies become aware with creative movement exercises such as yoga and dancing.

Circle time is an enjoyable time for children as they develop language skills, express their thoughts, and learn to participate in a group. We close our day with a prayer before lining up to greet parents.



Music and Movement

Program Overview



Around the Sun Montessori Preschool

Located in the lower level of First Christian Church

Address:
4797 Sharon Copley Rd.
Medina, OH 44256

Phone:
(330) 350-1507

E-mail:
aroundthesunmontessori@gmail.com

Web Site:
www.aroundthesunmontessori.com



A non-refundable registration fee of \$45 per child or \$60 per family is due at the time of application.

Families with multiple children will receive a 10% sibling discount on the total amount of tuition.

About Our Staff

In 2005, Amy Sever and Melissa Brubaker combined their extensive backgrounds in Early Childhood Education with their experience as committed and loving parents to develop an enriching preschool program for children.

Melissa Brubaker

Mrs. Brubaker has a BS degree in Elementary Education with a concentration in mathematics. She achieved her pre-primary AMS certification through extensive training and has over 20 years of experience in various Montessori environments

Amy Sever

Mrs. Sever has a BS degree in Individual and Family Studies and Early Childhood Education with a focus in Child Development and Child Care Administration. She has over 20 years of experience in the field of Early Childhood Education and has spent time both as a teacher and an Administrator.

Stephanie Warnament

Mrs. Warnament has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She has three children, all of who attended Around the Sun Montessori Preschool. She has worked extensively as a parent volunteer here at ATS and the elementary school over the past few years.

Jayne Miller

Mrs. Miller has been the office staff since 2011. She holds a substitute teaching license K-12 in the state of Ohio. She has an M.A. in American History.

About Montessori

Montessori is a philosophy of education based on the belief that children learn best in an environment which supports each child's unique development, and operates on the principle of freedom within limits. Children work at their own pace with the materials they have chosen, either alone or with others. The goal is to encourage active, self-directed learning so that each child can reach his or her full potential.

Montessori education was founded in 1907 by Dr. Maria Montessori, the first woman physician in Italy. She based her educational methods on scientific observation of children's learning processes, and believed that every child begins life with an inner drive to explore and discover the world around them. Dr. Montessori noted that most children learn from concrete experience and direct interaction with the environment.

Montessori education emphasized learning through all five senses, especially touch, sight and hearing. Children are placed in multi-aged groups, forming communities in which the older children share their knowledge with the younger ones. Montessori materials are designed to facilitate concrete learning in every area of the curriculum.

Tuition and Registration

Preschool

3 Days AM	9:00 - 12:00	M, T, W	\$220/month (\$1890)
3 Days PM	12:30 - 3:00	M, T, W	\$200/month (\$1800)
4 Days AM	9:00 - 12:00	M, T, W, Th	\$265/month (\$2385)
4 Days PM	12:30 - 3:00	M, T, W, Th	\$240/month (\$2160)

Extended Day (Kindergarten)*

4 Days	9:00-12:00 T, W / 9:00-1:30 M, Th (bring a lunch)	\$315/month (\$2835)
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*Child must be 5 before the end of the calendar year to be enrolled in Extended Day