

## Pre – K Curriculum 3 – 6 years

The age which is 2 to 6 years is very crucial in mental as well as physical development. Our objective is to help children reach their maximum learning potential, while becoming well- - balanced individuals able to cope with emotional, social and practical pressures of modern day living.

As teachers our role is to encourage positive attitudes, to help create strong individuals, and to provide the stimulus and inspiration for the child to learn and progress. The essence of Montessori education is that every child is treated with respect, given freedom within the limits of carefully structured environment, and allow to develop naturally at his or her own space

The Montessori educational approach looks for that retention of knowledge. Kit aims also to generate security, trust and independence in the child; it will prepare him/her to fit into any situation and to move on to primary or secondary education with confidence.

### Learning Skills

MorningStar Montessori students learn these social skills, as well as covering a whole range of academic subjects including mathematics, reading and writing, history and geography, science, music and art.

Practical life exercises are also taught. These would include teaching the child how to tie a bow, lace a shoe, how to use zippers and buttons and how to arrange flowers and care for a friend.

On an academic level, the MorningStar Montessori teacher will work closely with a wide range of didactic materials, originally developed by Dr. Maria Montessori to help children learn in a more creative and positive way. For example ;

#### ✓ Language :

Our system does not require the children to learn by heart at first but utilizes all the senses to help them read and write with proper understanding, to check pronunciation and to spell accurately. Children are given Bob books to read, according to their capabilities. The children are taught what are Rhyming words, singular and plural, how to make simple sentences, opposites, contractions, sight words, phonetic sounds, nouns and verbs.

✓ **Math :**

Montessori arithmetic is taught as early as 3, by giving the child objects to hold, count and manipulate. These help them learn the fundamentals of simple addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. MorningStar Montessori also introduces counting 1 – 100 and writing 1 – 100 in words to our students. We also skip count by 2's, 5's and 10's, fraction, money and time. A child must be able to transfer a concept into abstract.

✓ **Social Studies :**

Me and family, World map (7 continents), North America, South America and Land Forms.

✓ **Science :**

We introduce weather, parts of flowers, parts of trees, parts of fishes, parts of frogs, parts of horses, parts of birds and the ocean.

✓ **Homework :**

I believe that homework builds a partnership between the home and the school. Your child's homework will be periodically and it is expected that it will be returned the following day. The most important part of homework that I would like you and your child to participate in is reading every night. An active partnership between school and home, is a necessary ingredient for optimal growth and success. We hope the above information will increase your understanding of our school program. As always, please feel free to talk to us if you have any concerns or questions. We will be happy to help you.

We are so pleased that you are a part of our MorningStar Montessori school family.

# Curriculum Toddler

## **Curriculum for 18 months to 2 and half years old**

MorningStar Montessori School is committed to the Montessori approach to educate while providing freedom within a prepared environment, stressing academic individualized learning and development for your child. The Montessori method of education develops the child's five senses, through manipulative materials in the classroom. Each classroom is equipped with shelves that surround the room and contains hands of educational material. These materials are arranged in a progression of graduating difficulty allowing the child to see his/her own progress.

### **Practical Life**

This area contains materials that help the child to develop motor skills that are needed in everyday life. These would include teaching the child how to tie a bow, lace a shoe or use a screw driver; how to arrange flowers, spooning, pouring liquids, buttoning, zipping, snapping, tying, sorting etc.

### **Sensorial Exercise**

This area of the classroom contains materials that help the child develop his/her five senses. Sensorial type materials help the child to develop an ability to sort things by size, shape, color, touch, sounds and by weight. They will grade color from dark to light and sizes from large to small. The sensorial materials are mathematically graded and builds a solid foundation for geometry, geography and mathematics.

## **EMERGENCY DRILL PROCEDURES**

The facility will conduct at least one fire drill every month. The secretary or school director will sound the fire alarm, the children will have already been advised on fire drill procedures. Each classroom has an emergency evacuation and relocation plan posted in each room for the children's use. The evacuation plans have two options for exit in case one of the exits is blocked. The teacher claps her hands and the children line up in front of her. The co-teacher or assistant is at the end of the line and picks up the classroom roll. She will check to ensure that all the students have evacuated the classroom.

The facility will conduct special drills for tornadoes and chemical releases as required by the city and state officials. During a tornado drill the children will be taught to evacuate the classroom in an orderly manner and move to the inside classroom, which has no outside windows. Children will sit on their knees as flat as possible with both hands locked and placed over their necks. Children will stay in this position until the drill is over.

Chemical release drills are drills conducted by the school for possible toxic fumes or chemical releases that might occur in that area. In case of chemical release inside the building, the teacher will follow the same directions as a fire drill except the teacher will carry the field trip tags, which have the school's name and phone number on them. Once the children are evacuated and roll checked, the teacher may secure a tag on each child. The secretary is in charge of taking the children's card file in the office to notify parents.

Emergency phone numbers will be posted at telephones in the building. The school will also have smoke detectors and pull bars for fire alarms, with large extinguishers mounted in the hallways.

These procedures will be taught to children in a calm and learning atmosphere as in any lesson that will be taught to a child. Fire fighters and policemen will be invited into the facility to discuss safety with the children.

## **Schedule for the whole year :**

August : Parents Night Orientation

September : Remembrance Day ( just for older students), Patriotic songs

October : Fall Festival, lots of fun, Costume Day (staff dresses in costume)

November : Indian Day. Everyone dresses like Indians. For staff – do Indian Art 7 craft. Feast for everyone. Pot luck for kids (lunch).

December : Ornament night, Christmas musical party, book exchange, A visit from Santa

January : Fun Fair, Games, snack and toys.

February : Presidents Day – read books on Lincoln and Washington, play depicting historical events.

March : Open House, invite the entire community – invite with postcard invitation everyone who has visited the facility and on waiting list.

April : Easter Egg Hunt, Photos with the Easter Bunny

May : Mother's Day Tea, Field Day, Graduation Award Ceremony.

June : Field Trips

July : Field Day

## **The Purpose of Montessori Education**

Dr. Maria Montessori believed that no human is educated by another person. The individual must do it themselves or it will never be done. A truly educated individual continues long after the hours and year he/she spends in the classroom because he/she is motivated from within by a natural curiosity and love for knowledge. Dr. Montessori felt, therefore, that the goal of early childhood education should not be to fill the child with facts from a pre-selected course of studies, but rather to cultivate his/her own natural desire to learn.

In the Montessori classroom this objective is approached in two ways : First, by allowing each child to experience the excitement of learning by his/her own choice rather than being forced; and second, by helping the child to perfect all his/her natural tools for learning, so that her ability will be at a maximum level in future learning situations.

The Montessori materials have this dual long-range purpose in addition to their immediate purpose of giving specific information to the child.

From a parent's guide to the Montessori classroom by Aline D. Wolf

## Methods

Traditional	Montessori
Teacher is an information distributor and controller	Teacher is a guardian and cultivator
Children are passive receivers	Children are active participators
Class is composed of same aged children	Class is composed of various aged children
Class is focused on lectures given by teachers	Class is focused on activities of children themselves
Only one subject is given at each class	Subject can be chosen by children due to their own pace or development level



# Morning Star Montessori School Parent Information Sheet

- 1) The school provides nutritious, hot lunches daily without charge except Fridays. Every Friday is Lunch Box day.
- 2) The school has one parent-teacher conference per semester.
- 3) All students are recommended to attend school everyday if there is no emergency.
- 4) Tuition is due on the first day of every month. A 5% tuition will be charged to any late payment (after the fifth of every month).
- 5) A late fee of \$10 per hour is charged if your child is picked up late. This will be added to the invoice.
- 6) Semi-annual or annual enrollment tuition, under the inevitable circumstances, will be refunded after subtracting on the standard tuition charge.
- 7) Tuition will not be discounted for vacation or illness.
- 8) A sibling discount applies to lesser tuition.
- 9) A month written notice is required in order to withdraw child.
- 10) Tuition is on a monthly basis. No prorating is allowed.
- 11) Morning Star Montessori School has the right to terminate a student's enrollment at any time based on the discretion of the school.
- 12) School will be closed for all major holidays and severe weather conditions following the Frisco and Plano School District's weather policy

## Fees Schedule

### 1) Regular Enrollment:

1a)

		<b>Full time</b>	<b>Half-day</b>
<b>Infants:</b>	(0-18 mths)	\$700	\$400
<b>Toddlers:</b>	(18mths - 2 1/2 years)	\$650	\$350
<b>Pre-K:</b>	(2 1/2 - 6 years)	\$625	\$350
<b>Kindergarten</b>	5-6 years	\$600	\$250
<b>Grade 1 and above</b>	6-7 years	\$600	\$200
<b>Drop-in:</b>	(18 mths - 10 yrs)	\$40/day	
<b>Hourly:</b>	(18 mths - 10 yrs)	\$7/hour	

1b) Supply Fee of \$85 (2x/year) is due in Sept & Feb for Pre-K children

1c) A one-time registration fee of \$100 is payable at the time of registration





## Discipline and Guidance Policy for Morning Star Montessori

- Discipline must be:
  - 1) Individualized and consistent for each child ;
  - 2) Appropriate to the child's level of understanding ; and
  - 3) Directed toward teaching the child acceptable behavior and self-control
  
- A caregiver may only use positive methods of discipline and guidance that encourage self-esteem, self-control and self-direction which include at least the following:
  - 1) Using praise and encouragement of good behavior instead of focusing only upon unacceptable behavior;
  - 2) Reminding a child of behavior expectations daily by using clear, positive statements;
  - 3) Redirecting behavior using positive statements; and
  - 4) Using brief supervised separation or time out from the group, when appropriate for the child's age development, which is limited to no more than one minute per year of the child's age.
  
- There must be no harsh, cruel or unusual treatment of any child. The following types of guidance and discipline is prohibited:
  - 1) Corporal punishment or threats of corporal punishment;
  - 2) Punishment associated with food, naps or toilet training;
  - 3) Pinching, shaking or biting a child;
  - 4) Hitting a child with a hand or instrument;
  - 5) Putting anything in or on a child's mouth;
  - 6) Humiliating, rejecting or yelling at a child;
  - 7) Subjecting a child to harsh, abusive or profane language;
  - 8) Placing a child in a locked or dark room, bathroom or closet with the door closed; and
  - 9) Requiring a child to remain silent or inactive for inappropriately long periods of time for the child's age.

My signature verifies I have read and received a copy of this discipline and guidance policy

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Check one please:

Parent     employee/caregiver     household member of a child-care home



MorningStar Montessori Academy

## Summer Programs

- Summer classes offered for all ages up to 10 years old
- School is open Mon-Fri from 6.30am to 6.30pm except on major holidays.
- Lunch and 2 snacks provided
- Outline of activities and class schedule:
  - indoor /outdoor games and activities, gym
  - picnic and splash day on Fridays
  - study time, tutoring in math, science & language
  - computer time, movie shows
  - art & yoga classes
  - dance & piano classes by request
  - Game station
- Fee schedule:
  - Supply fee : \$75 (one time/yr)
  - Full day : \$600/month
  - Half-day : \$350/month
  - Hourly : \$5/hour
  - Dance/piano classes : \$10 per lesson

For enrollment : contact Ms. Aveline at 940-368-8228