



ÉCOLE MONTESSORI INTERNATIONALE

RUEIL-MALMAISON

PEDAGOGICAL CONTINUITY MARCH 2020

Dear parents,

In this exceptional situation, let's stay united so our kids can pursue in all serenity their learnings. Here is what we would like to propose you to assure the pedagogical continuity during school closure:

Infant Community 2-3 years old

Involve your child in all the simple acts of daily life. Your child will exercise, develop and refine his own abilities. These activities will allow him to become more and more independent. The activities must be adapted to the child's capacity for him to get involved. The child should be able to make an effort and try to find the solutions on his own, while being assured of your help if necessary.

There is no need to plan an unlimited number of activities. Only a few must be proposed and proposed again and again. At this age repetition is essential. It is through experimentation and effort that the child learns and refines his movements. The repetition of the activities will fix your child's concentration.

Here are some activities we do in our class and we invite you to do and do it again:

-Activities linked to self-care

Choosing clothes (among 2 or 3 possibilities adapted to the weather), blowing nose, washing hands, cleaning face, coughing/sneezing in elbow, raising awareness about using the pot or the toilets, brushing hair, brushing teeth, learning to open and close velcro, buttons, snaps, zippers, helmet click closure.

-Activities of participation to environment care and responsibilities

Sweep, sponge water from a table, set the table, clean up and fill the dishwasher, wash the table/chair, clean the windows, dust, water the plants, sort the laundry, put the laundry in the washing machine, fold the laundry, tidy up before taking another activity.

Participate with animal care (feeding, brushing dogs and cats, helping to wash the fish tank).

Participate to prepare meals: peeling fruits and vegetables, cutting, spreading, pouring and mixing, breaking eggs in a bowl, serving oneself, using cutlery, cutting alone if possible.

-Activities developing precision and eye/hand coordination et fingers strength

Stringing pearls, puzzles, cutting, collage, stickers, screw/unscrew bolts, open/shut padlocks.

-Graphic activities

For the oldest (3 years old), show your child the proper way to hold a pencil.

Free drawings with colouring pencils or markers - Reproduction of simple patterns - Simple colouring pictures with small area to colour.

-Activities developing global motricity

Playing with a ball, riding a tricycle, scooter, dancing, jumping...

-Activities developing language

We will send you material every week to discover a new topic. Corresponding vocals/audios files in French and English will be available on the school website. If you can, take some time with your child to observe nature (flowers, weather, birds, insects...) and name what you see precisely and invite them to repeat the new vocabulary.

Explore books and picture books and name the objects.

Read stories inspired from real life (avoid imaginary stories)

Practice sounds game: put in a basket different small objects and invite the child to find the object whose name starts by a given sound. Always ask the first sound and not the name of the letter. You can also do this game with any object from the house or picture cards.

-Introductory activities in Mathematics

Enumeration: counting steps in stairs, chairs, cutlery...

Sort objects by shape, color, etc.

Create sequences: alternate colors according to a model (start with a simple alternation)

-Activities of plastic art

Painting– modeling clay – salt dough – stencils.

-Musical activities

Listen to music, songs and nursery rhymes in French and in English.

If possible, structure your days with points of reference for your child, for example by establishing a very simple timetable, separating free games and guided activities with you. Give them time to explore the proposed activities, without waiting for results.

Children can be overwhelmed by too many choices. Try to limit the educational activities available to five or ten (depending on your child) and change some of them each week to maintain interest. Repetition is important for deep learning. Try to find a balance between adding new activities and having the child repeat the activities that interest them.

One of the pillars of Montessori education is free choice. Ideally have activities freely available and let your child choose which activity they want to do, for how long they want to do it and also be responsible for tidying it away (they may need help at the beginning if they are not already used to it) Concentration is developed when children can work for long periods uninterrupted, so try and intervene as little as possible when your child is concentrating. Intervene only when your child asks for help directly or before they become upset or give up through frustration. Learning happens when a child overcomes a difficulty through perseverance and problem solving themselves. Activities are presented to the children by demonstrating how to carry out the activity in an ordered manner, slowly and carefully demonstrating each movement and gesture, while the child observes. It is then the child's turn to try the activity while you observe how they get on and if they need any further help or another demonstration.

In the continuity of educational activity, avoid games on tablets and screens in general.

I remain at your disposal by e-mail to further explain these proposals if necessary.

Good luck to all and see you soon.