

Pack # 1 Montessori learning ideas

THE FMS LEARNING FROM HOME SERIES PACK FOR
Pre-Primary (3-6 years)



Forestville
MONTESSORI School
Thriving beyond...

Released Wednesday 1st April 2020

A Message from Denice and Anthony:

Hello 3-6 Parents,

If you are self-isolating, how's life as you transition your children to this temporary arrangement of learning from home? It's lovely seeing the children who continue to attend school. For all the children at home, we are missing you very much.

We are here for you.

This is not home schooling. We are intentionally not being prescriptive and providing structured daily schedules about learning at home because as a family, you will be making choices that work for you.

We will probably never again live through a time such as this. We are all slowing down and reflecting on what matters in our lives. In the video series we made last year, Sue Birdsall, the Founder of Forestville Montessori School had this to say about what's important about a Montessori education:

"It's the best environment they could ever have. The way they are given knowledge, acquire knowledge, learn about the universe, the world and what's important in society and get to know what their place is and how they can contribute."

There has never been a more poignant time for us to recognise the profound impact of a Montessori education for peace and for life.

We're providing your children with some learning ideas. They will have many more ideas of their own so let them go with the flow. Whatever comes of this unfathomable epidemic, there will be much learning and we will all be wiser.

This is a moment in time it is temporary. Let's focus on what we want for our children and their childhood beyond COVID-19. Together, we will get through this.

Denice Scala

Principal

Anthony Milano

Deputy Principal

Head of Montessori Teaching & Learning

From Your Teachers

Hello 3-6 Children and Parents,

You may have been at home for a while now instead of coming to your school. We want you to know that we miss you and have been thinking about you. We thought that we would send you Pack 1 of the FMS Montessori Learning From Home Series. This includes a schedule with suggested activities in age ranges that will be sent via email. To accompany this, we have built a take home '3-6 Resource Bag' that you can collect from the school office. As each pack is released, there will be associated activities for your resource bag that you can come and collect from the school. We have also provided you a folder so you can store your work from home. You can decorate and draw on it to personalise your folder.

Parents, the age ranges are designed as a guide and are a good starting point for all children. As you know, at FMS we take the children from where they are, so the age groupings are a guide. Please speak to your class Directress, via the office by phone or via email if you have any questions about where to start your child in Pack 1. We understand that families will engage in some, none or all of the activities and we support your decision.

We are looking forward to sending out our YouTube storytime series each Wellbeing Wednesday so you can access this with your parents anytime you wish to hear a story from one of your educators.

Enjoy your time together and we are here for you now and always.

Christine, Bonnie, Rosalie, Natasha & Mag

Pre-Primary (3-6 years) Staff

Language for 3-4 year olds

The Sound Game – “I Spy...”

See page 62.. Montessori Read and Write by Lynne Lawrence*. Can be played with objects found inside and outside.

Letter Shapes

Trace letter shapes. Place a thin layer of sand, dirt, flour on a baking tray give the child an example of a letter that they know and they can practise writing the letter.

Classified Language Game

Collect 5-6 objects from the kitchen to increase your child’s vocabulary e.g. (spatula, whisk, fork, saucepan, cake tin). Put them in a basket together. Name the objects as you lay them out from left to right. Then ask your child to bring you an object. When they do, ask them “what did you bring?” this will allow them to practise the new language they are learning.

Environment Game

Orientation to the environment game. Give your child instructions such as “Go and stand next to the couch.” “Hop on one foot and touch the front door with your thumb.”

Song Cards

Sing simple known songs and nursery rhymes with your child.
Song cards could be made and put on the shelf for your child to choose.
See the examples in the Resource Bag.

* A copy of ‘Montessori Read and Write’ by Lynne Lawrence is available on the ‘COVID-19’ page of the FMS Website.

Language for 5 year olds / Extended Program

Letters

See page 142 in 'Montessori Read and Write' by Lynne Lawrence. Here you will find letter templates that can be printed and your child can cut them out. They can be stuck onto card and used in language games and letter/sound correspondence or as writing prompts.

Movable Alphabet for Writing

Make your own movable alphabet with the emailed copy. Store each letter in its own compartment in a craft box. See page 137 in 'Montessori Read and Write' by Lynne Lawrence or the template in the Resource Bag.

Alphabet Books

See page 140 and 141 in 'Montessori Read and Write' by Lynne Lawrence for making alphabet books with your child where they match the letter to objects around the room and draw. See the template in the Resource Bag.

Puzzle Words / Sight Word

Print off and introduce 3 at a time and play the bring me game with your child. If they like they can make the words with the moveable alphabet or write them on paper. See the template in the Resource Bag.

Label the Environment

Either you write the labels and your child reads the label and puts it on the object in the environment or your child writes their own labels and places them in the environment. E.g. labels could be window, door, couch, table, floor, rug. Please note that your child will spell phonetically as they do at school. See the blank labels in the Resource Bag.

* A copy of 'Montessori Read and Write' by Lynne Lawrence is available on the 'COVID-19' page of the FMS Website.



Mathematical concepts for 3-4 year olds



Numbers and Counters

Have a basket for your child to collect objects. Have numbers written on card from 1-10. Ask your child to get 1 of something e.g “go and find 1 thing from the bathroom and bring it to the table.” They then match the object to the number e.g. 1 toothbrush and the number card for 1. Continue until 10. See the number template in the Resource Bag.

Sorting Objects

Collect 3 sets of objects that are different in size and texture such as stones, buttons, dry beans. Put these items in the one bowl and have your child close their eyes and feel the difference and sort them into 3 separate bowls.

Hopscotch

Draw a template with chalk on the driveway or tiled area at home. Write the numbers in the square and throw a sock or soft ball to land on a number.

Fractions

Folding cloths and laundry. Introduce the language of fold in half and into fourths.

Sorting Game

Sorting laundry in multiple ways by colour, by size, by use, pattern. Make piles and talk about the similarities and differences.



Mathematical concepts for 5 year olds / Extended Program



Reading a Clock - On the Hour

Practise reading clocks, both digital and analogue.
Make a clock with paper. Read the hours. See the template in the Resource Bag.

Board Games

Play board games e.g. Monopoly as it introduces money and addition and subtraction. Play Uno for colour and number recognition.

Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication Games with Dice

Throw the dice, write the number down e.g 3. Then write the + for addition. Roll the dice and write the number e.g. 5. Write the = and your child can use their fingers or objects to find the answer. On the paper you should have $3+5= 8$ when finished. Vary this for the other operations

Measuring ingredients

Scales – Place different items on a scale and work out the weight of the item.

Word Problems

Peter had four apples in the basket and then added an orange. How many did Peter have in the basket now. Answer 5.
Anna put in four bananas and took out one apple to eat. How many was left in the basket altogether.
Make up others with your child. We have given you three examples to start with in the Resource Bag.

Science for 3-4 year olds



Sink and Float

The learning objective is to test predictions and classify objects according to whether they sink and float. Encourage your child to test objects from their indoor and outdoor environments.

Water Displacement Experiment.

The learning objective is to observe how water is displaced when an object is submerged in it. Use rocks from the environment. Please read the book associated with this experiment- "Who Sank the Boat"? There is also a YouTube link to the book.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZpFWuHSDFtQ>

Sink and Float

What is needed:

- Tray
- 2 bowls- 1 labelled sink and 1 labelled float.
- Large see-through container or lunchbox.
- 8 various objects from around the environment.
- Sponge and Cloth to dry objects and tray.
- Suggested materials- wood, metal, plastic, foil, apples, oranges, plastic bottles, toy blocks, paper, bathtub toys, Cutlery, cork, rubber balls, bottle caps, pencils, erasers, sponges, feathers, small metal objects, coins

Water Displacement Activity.

What is needed:

Container
Rocks
Water

- Obtain a container and half fill with water. Add different sized rocks to the water and observe what happens to the water level. Is it one object that contributes to the water rising or is a collective result?

See links above.

Science for 3-4 year olds

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Volume and Capacity

The learning objective is for children to observe the amount of space a substance/liquid can occupy.

Volume and Capacity

What is needed:

Two containers of varying sizes

Water

Food colouring (optional)

Sponge or cloth for spills

- This activity is designed for children to observe the amount of space a substance/liquid occupies. Pour equal amounts of water (2 cups) in each container and add food colouring.
- Observe and discuss:
 - the amount of space the water occupies or takes up in each container (the volume).
 - how full each container is (capacity).



Sink or Float Tray

Science for 5 year olds / Extended Program

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Sink and Float

The learning objective is to test predictions and classify objects according to whether they sink and float. Encourage your child to test objects from their indoor and outdoor environments. Refer to 3-4 year old activities for materials.

Water Displacement Experiment.

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZpFWuHSDftQ>
Refer to 3-4 year old activities for materials.

Sink and Float

Use the chart in the Resource Bag. Illustrate and record which objects sink and which objects float.

- For an object that floats, what can you add to make it sink?
- For an object that sinks, what can you add to make it float?

Repeat this experiment with other objects from the environment.

Add salt to the water. Does it change the outcome of the results?
Record your findings.

Water Displacement Activity.

Use the chart in the Resource Bag and illustrate and record what happened each time a rock was added and submerged in the water. Add objects of different weights in the water. Does the outcome change?

Science for 5 year olds / Extended Program

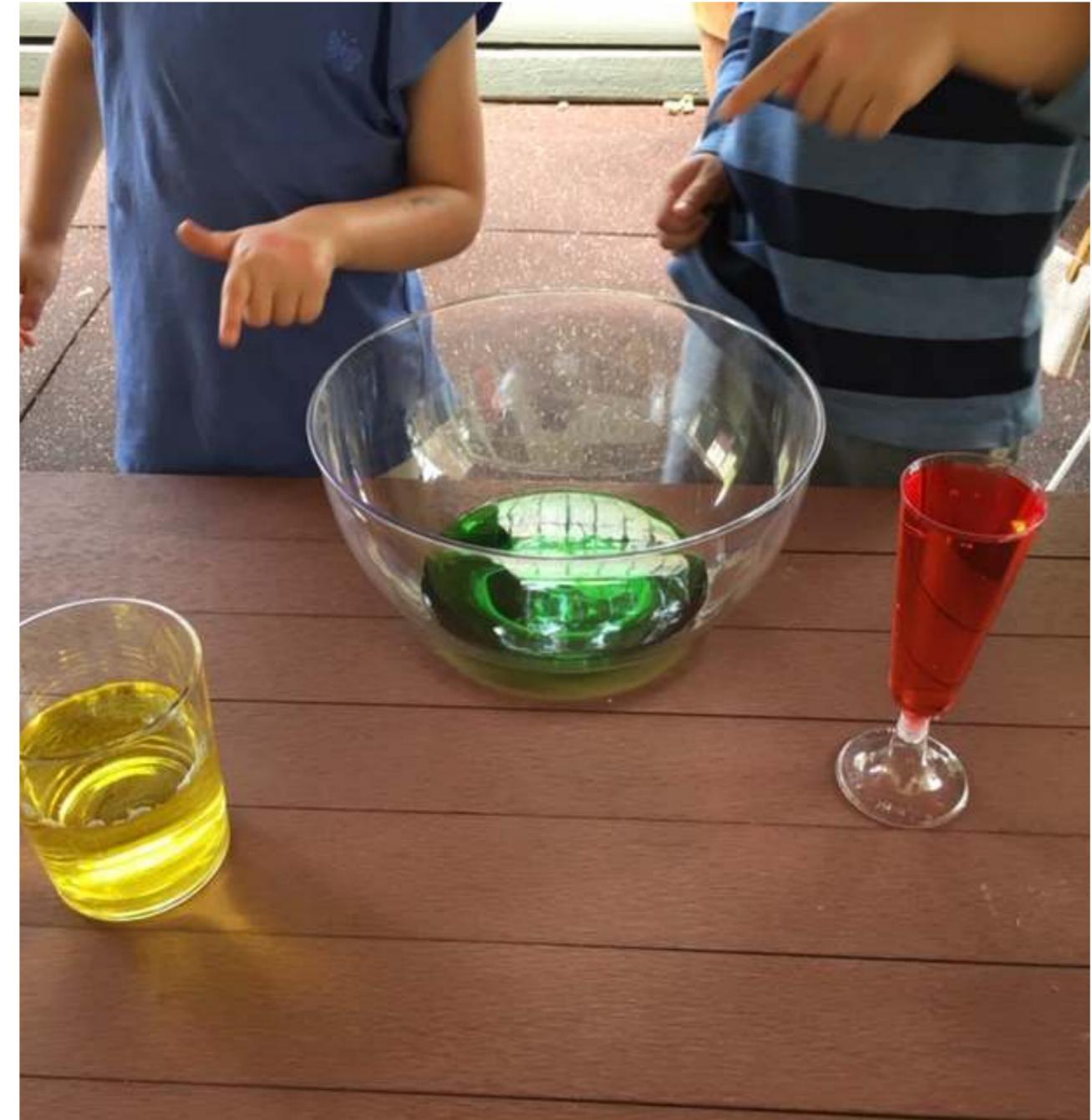
3

Volume and Capacity

The learning objective is for children to observe the amount of space a substance/liquid can occupy. Refer to 3-4 year old activities for materials.

Volume and Capacity

Increase the quantity of containers used. Choose containers of varying heights and widths. Pour the same amount of water in each container. Observe the amount of space the water occupies.



Volume and Capacity



Practical Life for 3-4 year olds

4

Care of Self Exercises

- Practice buttons on clothing e.g. coat, jacket.
- Getting dressed and undressed in the morning and getting ready for bed.
- Washing hands. Practice hand washing whilst singing 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star' or 'Wash your hands' to the Frere Jacques tune for 20 seconds each day.
- Tying bows on shoes or running shoes. Also try with aprons before baking and with other clothing with bows.

Care of Environment Exercises

- Watering plants inside and outside. Use a small water dispenser to help save on water or child sized watering cans.
- Dusting the leaves and removing any dead leaves or flowers.

Setting the Table

- For mealtimes: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.
- Tablecloth, Placemats, Cutlery and Cups.

Preparing a Snack

Low shelf in kitchen to be accessible for child to use. Bottom shelf with plate, fork, cup, with a piece of fruit/vegetable.



Practical Life for 5 year olds / Extended Program

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Care of Self Exercises

- Shoes/clothing with laces.
- Zips on clothing. Getting dressed and undressed each day.
- Continue to practice handwashing. Washing hands procedure for 20 seconds.

Sewing

- Sewing a button either onto card or material. Please use the sewing kit provided in the 'Post Pack'.

Care of the Environment Exercises

- Washing cloths and hanging out on clothes line.
- Folding up dried cloths and placing back onto shelf or back in cupboard.
- Tidying and organising rooms.
- Setting the table.
- Preparing a snack/meal.



Art for 3-4 year olds

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Watercolour Painting

Materials needed:

- Tray
- Paper
- Watercolours
- Small jar of water
- Paintbrush
- Paper towel
- Apron

Set up on a table or an art easel if available.

Art Appreciation

Each week we will give the children an opportunity to analyse and interpret a selected piece of art.

Art for 5 year olds / Extended Program

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Still Life Paintings

Use flowers, plants, fruit, vegetables etc. Place chosen object/objects on a table or surface. Observe how light and shadow affect each object. Paint or draw the effects and colours observed.



Still Life



Daily Physical Activity



| <p align="center">Daily Physical Activity</p> <p align="center">Aim for 60 minutes or more a day of activities you find fun Feel free to mix and match or make up your own ones and share what you have done</p> | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p align="center">Be inspired</p> <p>Get active and try an awesome sports activity or dance routine designed by the children of FMS https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWdZGk7ixos1LEzEcJ1C0Xw</p> | <p align="center">Rainy day</p> <p>Blow up a balloon, scrunch up a ball of paper, grab some empty boxes and see what you come up with.</p> | <p align="center">Find Your Fun</p> <p>Go online and discover fun ways to move your body www.gonoodle.com www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga</p> | <p align="center">Let's Dance</p> <p>Put on some music and move. Make up a game, design a routine or dance like no one is watching!</p> |
| <p align="center">The Classic</p> <p>Grab some fresh air and go for a walk, jog or run.</p> | <p align="center">Circuit Challenge</p> <p>Make a Circuit in your house or garden and challenge your whole family. Set up activity stations. Set a timer – try 30 seconds for each station Rotate around your stations</p> | <p align="center">Chart your daily activity</p> <p>Record how many minutes you ran, danced or exercised for. Time yourself doing challenges and try to beat your own target. Make a chart or bar graph showing your achievements.</p> | <p align="center">On Your Bike</p> <p>Find some wide-open space to ride your bike, scooter, skateboard, roller blades or Unicycle!</p> |
| <p align="center">Help out and Get Healthy</p> <p>Taking out the bins, vacuum the house, clean the windows or get busy in the garden.</p> | <p align="center">Mission Impossible</p> <p>Design an Obstacle course where you can't touch any of the obstacles.</p> | <p align="center">Challenge 15</p> <p>Check out the daily FMS 15 minute activity challenge https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWdZGk7ixos1LEzEcJ1C0Xw</p> | <p align="center">Terrific Teamwork</p> <p>Try volleyball or catch with your neighbour over the fence, arrange a virtual playdate and share a skill with a friend or teach your parents some dance moves and send a video to a family member.</p> |