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MONTESSORI PARENT OBSERVATION GUIDELINES

We have an open door policy in the Montessori classroom. Parents are welcome to observe. However, we ask that you please schedule your visit ahead of time. Parents are also welcome to come and have lunch with their child.

Visit hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 11:30am.

The Montessori classroom is an environment that has been specially prepared for the children, and while in the classroom the children must be our primary concern.

Out of respect for the children and their work, we adults try to make ourselves as invisible as possible to allow the children to work, experiment, and learn without interruption. While children enjoy having visitors in the classroom, they will try as hard as they can to continue with their work cycle while containing their desire to spend time with you. Please wait for the children to initiate any adult-child interaction.

If you see a child struggling with his or her work or making a mistake, please refrain from offering help. The materials are designed to help the child correct his or her own mistakes and it is from these mistakes that the child learns. If the child is not capable to solve his or her problem, the child will seek the help that he or she needs. Ideally, the help will come from one of his or her peers.

The children sometimes place their work on rugs and work on the floor. As you walk around the classroom, please be mindful of the rugs and floor tables, trying not to step on their work.

I will have a handout ready for you with ideas on what to look for in the classroom, as well as blank paper and a pen. Please feel free to take notes and write down any questions that you may have. I will take the time to answer all of your questions either at the end of your visit, over the phone, or upon scheduling a special time for us to meet and talk about your experience in the classroom. Your input is extremely valuable for me. Please take the time to share your experience.

I hope you enjoy your time with us and come visit again soon. – Gabriela Perez