



What is Montessori?

It is necessary to give children the possibility of developing according to the laws of their nature, so that they can become strong, and having become strong, can do even more than we dared hope for them.

Dr. Maria Montessori

Montessori began in the early 1900's and was designed by Dr. Maria Montessori, a physician, educator, and observer of children. Dr. Montessori based her approach to primary education upon the idea that a human being is not educated by another person. Instead, education is achieved through one's own experiences. She devised a unique learning process based upon individual interests and developmental stages. The Montessori approach requires the cultivation of a child's natural desire to learn, think, and act independently. Dr. Montessori believed that children have an absorbent mind which enables them to absorb an immense amount of information during their first six years of life. Her life's work was in the creation of education materials, which aid the child in this learning process.

For more information about Montessori Education, visit the following websites.

- American Montessori Society www.amshq.org
- North American Montessori Teachers' Association www.montessori-namta.org
- The Association Montessori International www.montessori-ami.org

**Please note that Lagniappe Montessori and Children's Center will be supplementing the Montessori Language curriculum with *Primary Phonics* as well as some other materials to ensure kindergarten readiness.

- *Education is a natural process carried out by the child and is not acquired by listening to words but by experiences in the environment.*
- *The child is both a hope and a promise for mankind.*

Dr. Maria Montessori