

## Montessori Tenets: Work

It is only week two and the classrooms are already settling in and getting "**normalized**". As Montessorians we use the term normalized to describe when the students have the rhythm of the day and, together and independently, work and grow where they need to.

Children are choosing their "**work**" and building their **concentration**. In Montessori classrooms we call the student activities "work" because the children are choosing materials that are helping them to grow where they are developmentally needing to grow, and that is their "work" as children. Dr. Montessori also chose this word knowing that "work" should ideally have the same joy and appeal for adults, as the activities the children are choosing on which to work. We should all be learning and growing through our "work".

As guides in the classroom, the adults are careful not to interrupt a child at work. We want to foster that concentration and focus, rather than encourage distraction. This is something you can work to build at home too. When your child is engaged in something, let it come to a natural close, rather than interrupt with any words of praise or requests for another activity.

There are many terms and concepts that we use in a Montessori environment that have a special meaning to us. As parents, the more you can learn about the environment your child experiences at school, the better you can be consistent with that at home, and the more your children benefit from both. Please join us next Thursday, and for all of our parent information events this coming year to learn more about the Montessori philosophy that is bringing so much to your child, so it can bring the same to your family!

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