

# Motivation Suggestions

## by Thacher Montessori Lead Guides

Motivation at home during distance learning can be different from the motivation children have at school within the prepared environment and among their social interactions with peers. Lead Guides have listed suggestions by level to help with supporting your child's motivation throughout remote learning.

### Toddler

- Use your child's interest to create a designated space designed for exploration and discovery. Your child should show excitement in working with the materials and activities offered. Everything placed in the child's workspace should be able to be handled by the child without fear of breaking or damaging.
- Keeping your child's abilities and stamina, work to establish a clear schedule that remains consistent day-to-day, so there are clear expectations. At first, your child will need some assistance and demonstrations following the routine of the day; however, in time, it will become a natural part of working at home.
- Set up a small sitting area near your child's workspace to model working as well
- Schedule a break or two during the morning to come together for a snack or book
- All activities, those of practical life and manipulatives, should be composed of materials able to be used by the child. For example, for sweeping, the child should have a child-sized broom and dustpan and brush. A small table and chair allow for a designated tabletop workspace, a small rug, or mat works to designate a floor workspace for these activities. This allows the child to feel confident in participating in these activities, which will increase the motivation to engage with them.
- Demonstrate care, respect, and gentleness with all materials. Also, demonstrate respect for the environment by returning materials when they are done being used, and upholding this expectation with all others in the home.
- Allow for choices throughout the day- clothing, breakfast, snacks preparation, lunch, going for a bike ride or walking, etc. Making his/her own choice is a great motivator for young children
- Welcome each day with enthusiasm, and your child will as well!