This book provides information on the basic principles of Montessori education for 3- to 12-year-olds and contains a catalog of equipment, materials, and books for use by adults living or working with children. Information and relevant materials for 3- to 6-year-olds are organized into the following areas: (1) organizing the environment; (2) family life, including care of each other, care of the environment and food preparation and serving; (3) toys and games; (4) blocks and puzzles; (5) earth science; (6) plants and animals; (7) people, including geography and history; (8) language materials; (9) music; (10) art; and (11) geometry and math. Information and materials for 6- to 12-year-olds is organized as follows: (12) cooperation and peace; (13) earth science; (14) plants and animals; (15) geography, history, and biography; (16) language; (17) art and music; and (18) geometry, mathematics, and invention. Two final sections cover parenting and teaching children from birth to 24 years, and an introduction to Montessori education is included. (KB)
Child of the World

ESSENTIAL MONTESSORI
Age 3-12+ Years


-Parents' Choice Foundation Seal of Approval-
Dear Friends,

Today many young people realize that they will be responsible for the world's social and physical future. Foreign languages are again emerging as an important part of education, and through the ease of travel and internet communication, the world is becoming a single community. All this has changed in just one generation, and changes are happening now at an unprecedented rate. It is impossible to foresee what life will be like in one more generation. But one thing is sure, our children will be, in all ways, people of the world, and they will need to have been educated in preparation for this role.

As Dr. Montessori so wisely and prophetically expressed early in this century:

"Today those things which occupy us in the field of education, are the interests of humanity at large and of civilization. Before such great forces we can recognize only one country—the entire world."

Children are constantly learning from the adult models, absorbing from birth on, the attitudes and beliefs of those around them. It is not enough to give them quality multi-cultural toys and books: we adults must prepare ourselves constantly to live up to the important task of educating our children. The ideas within these pages give parents, grandparents, anyone living with or working with children common sense ideas for learning to learn, and to live in peace with the family, the community, and the earth.

The Michael Olaf Company has come a long way from its humble beginnings as a tiny shop for families in the San Francisco Bay Area—to an international source of information and materials. We could not have done it without the suggestions and the word-of-mouth recommendations of you, our customers.

With our sincere thanks, we wish for you joy and contentment in your role as parent, grandparent, teacher, or friend of children. What could be more important?

Sincerely,

Susan & Jim Stephenson
and everyone at Michael Olaf

SUGGESTED AGES:
The ages recommended throughout the catalogue should be adapted according to considerations of safety and the interest of the child. In many cases materials from The Joyful Child, Michael Olaf's essential Montessori publication for birth to three, are also appropriate, especially for the 3-6 class. See page 96 for information.

WHO IS MICHAEL OLAF?
In 1983 two teenagers, Narda and Ursula Melvin, began a homeschool project, opening a tiny shop to provide quality toys and books for children. They named it after their baby brother Michael Olaf. Today this company serves homes and schools all over the world.

GIFT REGISTRY
Well-known supporters of Montessori education include: Helen Keller, Alexander Graham Bell, Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, Mahatma Gandhi, Rabindranath Tagore, Sigmund Freud, Buckminster Fuller, Tolstoy, Bertrand Russell, Jean Piaget, Erik Erikson, John Holt, David Elkind, Ann Frank (Montessori student), and many others.

MICHAEL OLAF MONTESSORI
65 Ericson Court #1, Arcata, CA

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USA Toll free ORDER phone (888) 880-9235
Phone: (707) 826-1557;
International Fax: (707) 826-2243
Toll-Free Fax, USA only: (800) 429-8877
E-mail address: Michaelola@aol.com
Web Site: www.michaelolaf.net
Open Warehouse—Adults Only:
2nd Friday of every month from 1-5:30

Child of the World
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Author: Susan Mayclin Stephenson

Cover Photograph:
Grandpa looks on in pride and not a little amusement as grandson prepares his breakfast eggs. From the photo archives of James Clark Mayclin.

3 PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER
**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**PAGE:**

1. **PREPARING THE ENVIRONMENT:**
   organizing the environment, age 3-6,
   age 6-12, the environment and the mind

6. **3-6 FAMILY LIFE—CARE OF EACH OTHER AND THE ENVIRONMENT:**
   the first six years, participating in family life, the child’s purpose

11. **3-6 FAMILY LIFE—FOOD PREPARATION AND SERVING:**
   practical life as the foundation for all later work, the needs of the parent

16. **3-6 TOYS & GAMES:**
   active play, the senses, toys, cooperative games

21. **3-6 BLOCKS & PUZZLES:**
   blocks, puzzles, an introduction to later studies

25. **3-6 EARTH:**
   motor-sensorial experiences, land forms, ecology, science experiments, lessons, art and language

32. **3-6 PLANTS & ANIMALS:**
   the nature of plants and animals, classification, bodies—sex education

41. **3-6 PEOPLE:**
   geography & history, teaching geography, globes, maps, and flags, teaching history

47. **3-6 LANGUAGE:**
   the language of the child’s world, vocabulary cards—speaking stage, experience first, pre-reading and reading, writing, reading and writing, vocabulary cards—reading, books, exploring language

54. **3-6 MUSIC:**
   singing, listening to music, composers, musical instruments

58. **3-6 ART:**
   art materials, art activities, art appreciation

61. **3-6 GEOMETRY & MATH:**
   manipulative materials

65. **6-12 INTRODUCTION:**
   introduction, cooperation and peace

67. **6-12 EARTH:**
   astronomy to geology, lab manuals, timelines

71. **6-12 PLANTS & ANIMALS:**
   experiments and observation, adaptation & changes of plants and animals, classification, bodies—sex education

75. **6-12 GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, BIOGRAPHY:**
   geography, history, biography, American history, biography

80. **6-12 LANGUAGE:**
   creating a language environment, learning to read, personal spelling dictionary, handwriting, the history of language, etymology, grammar

86. **6-12 THE ARTS:**
   art and music

89. **6-12 GEOMETRY, MATH, INVENTION:**
   geometry, math, invention

93. **PARENTING & TEACHING:**
   age 0-6, age 6-12, age 12-18, age 18-24, for everything there is a season

99. **INTRODUCTION TO MONTESSORI:**
   elements of Montessori philosophy on which the educational method is based, Montessori teachers, a brief biography of Dr. Maria Montessori, more information

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**PREPARING THE ENVIRONMENT**

I never teach my pupils; I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn.

- Einstein

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**TABLES AND STOOLS**

These tables, constructed of birch and maple, with an extremely durable, scrubable, white formica top, will last for many years. The height is perfect for developing good posture, and concentration. The square table top is 24” square. The circular table top is 30” in diameter. The rectangular table top is 22” x 30”. The height of all of the tables is 22” at the top. The matching stool is 12” tall, the seat 10” in diameter. (Special order. Allow up to a month for delivery.)

**KILIM ORIENTAL RUG**

For a special rug with a real cultural flavor, a child-size oriental rug. It is an authentic, handmade woolen Maimana Kilim from Afghanistan. The weave is a traditional kilim weave which lies flat for work and rolls up easily. The colors are different with each shipment, but they are always woven in rich, dark colors, with natural dyes. It can also be used as special geography or cultural work. The Kilim makes a classroom into a home. Size: The rug is approximately 2’ x 3.’

**SHELF**

Wooden shelves help a child organize and learn to put toys and books, art materials, musical instruments, even clothing or dishes and glasses where they belong. If possible it is grand to have some kind of shelving for the child in the bedroom, the living room, the kitchen, even in the garage for gardening and work shop equipment.

This shelf is open at the back so it can be approached from both sides, used as a low space divider. It is made of beautifully finished plywood, the finish strong enough to withstand years of washing (and shelf-washing is a preferred and very useful practical life exercise in the classroom and in the home). The open multiuse shelf is 36” wide, 15” deep, and 24” high. (Special order. Allow up to a month for delivery.)

**PUZZLE SHELVES**

Puzzle furniture is a new concept in work spaces. It is designed to resemble the lines and styling of Shaker or Mission furniture. This 2 or 3-shelf puzzle bookcase unit can be assembled in minutes without tools and will stand up for years under constant use. It can be stored flat when not in use. It is constructed of a special plywood with solid birch veneer imported from Europe. The finish is lead free. Both shelves are 29.5” long and 11.5” deep. The 3-shelf is 26” tall and the 2-shelf unit 16” tall. (Special order. Will be dropshipped directly to you separately from the rest of your order. Allow a month for delivery.)

**TABLES AND STOOLS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table Type</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DR810 Square 3-6 Table</td>
<td>24” square</td>
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<tr>
<td>DR820 Circular 3-6 Table</td>
<td>30” in diameter</td>
<td>$115.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>DR830 Rectangular 3-6 Table</td>
<td>22” x 30”</td>
<td>$128.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DR840 Round 3-6 Stool</td>
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**SHELF**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PE730 3-Puzzle Shelf Unit</td>
<td>36” wide</td>
<td>$134.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**KILIM ORIENTAL RUG**

Size: The rug is approximately 2’ x 3.’

**SHELF**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KILIM ORIENTAL RUG</td>
<td>Authentic handmade woolen Maimana Kilim from Afghanistan</td>
<td>$39.50</td>
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</table>
PREPARING THE ENVIRONMENT

AGE 3-6:
Children at this age often prefer to work on the floor instead of at a table—on rugs or pieces of carpet which can be rolled up when not in use. This marks the work space just as would a table. In the classroom we use a variety of colors and shades, an oriental rug or two, and rugs with a simple horizontal stripe for using a movable alphabet, vocabulary cards, and math beads.

In the home, rather than keeping things in large toy chests or boxes, we use trays and baskets for most things. The child's belonging can be sorted in baskets, boxes, and on shelves, into types of clothing, blocks and other toys, puzzles, art materials, kitchen tools, etc. This makes finding and putting away easier and enjoyable.

In the classroom materials are attractively arranged on shelves according to subject—language, math, geography, history, science, music, and art. Each piece of material has a special, permanent place so that children know where to find it and where to put it away for the next person when finished.

Tables and chairs of the correct height are important at every age to support the body in good posture while

SLATTED FURNITURE
This light, adjustable bookcase can be easily taken apart and moved by the child as he organizes his environment. It comes with 2 shelves and a third one can be added. The Clothing Rack can be hung in a closet, the child's room, or near the front or back doors. Underneath the rack is a bar for coat hangers, and it comes with an adjustable 2-hook segment for hanging pajamas, sweaters, items of clothing that are used daily. The top shelf and the hooks are adjustable.

The 2-shelf bookcase is 12” deep, 23” high, and 22” long. The clothing rack is 12” deep, 26 long, and 23” high.

This furniture is made of wood, with light Masonite shelves. (Special order. Will be drop-shipped to you independently of the rest of your order.)
(*) PE750 Clothing Rack $55.00
(*) PE752 2-Shelf Book Case $50.00
(*) PE753 Extra Book Case Shelf $18.00

FLOOR MATS
Floor mats are kept rolled up in a special place in the 3-6 classroom for constant use by children. The unrolling at the beginning, and rolling up and putting away at the end of an activity marks the beginning and end of a work cycle, and provides a feeling of completion and success. Floor mats mark the private work space, and teach respect for concentration. A favorite activity is to spread out several mats and to practice walking through this maze of mats without stepping on them. This is an exercise in care of movement as well as a lesson in respect of a work space. Although they are available for any work, the striped mat is often chosen for moveable alphabet, or language card activities. For use at home or at school. Both the beautiful striped rugs, and the plain rugs, are made to our specifications, of 100% cotton, in India. 2” x 3.”

PE024 Yellow & White Striped Floor Mat $16.00
PE022 Yellow Floor Mat $16.00
(*) PE026 Blue & White Striped Floor Mat $16.00
(*) PE028 Blue Floor Mat $16.00

BOOK STAND
A light-colored, natural wood book stand displays books to which the parent or teacher would like to draw the child's attention. This model of book stand is our favorite because both sides are usable and it can function as a low wall, closing off a private book corner or nook. It is a good height for young children, and up to age seven or eight. It is made of fine birch plywood, of school quality to last for years. It is 32.5” wide, 14.5” deep, 24” high, with added storage in back for toys. (Special order. Allow up to a month for delivery.)

PE720 $126.25

HELP ME DO IT MYSELF" TOWER
The original intention of this wonderful creation was to allow the child to climb up to the kitchen counter to help with the cooking or dishwashing, or to be able to get a drink. This may still be the most important use. However, it is also used by children as a work/play table, a climbing device, a puppet theatre, and, covered with a blanket, a playhouse or hiding place!

The tower fits securely up against a kitchen counter, its 4-sided construction prevents falling, and one of the top bars can be removed without affecting the stability. The 15” to 18” standing platform (also used as the play/work surface) is adjustable to three different heights, adapting easily to the size of the child and the activity. The tower is made of quality Baltic birch plywood and is 38” tall. (Special order. The tower will be drop shipped to you independently of the rest of your order.)

(*) PE756 $169.95

CHILD of the WORLD, Michael Olaf's Essential Montessori for ages 3-12+, 2000-2001
(*) = new items
PREPARING THE ENVIRONMENT

the child reads, writes, works. As the child grows, the table and chair should be changed to support good posture at every age.

AGE 6-12:
At this age the child engages in more individual and group projects and needs a place to keep ongoing projects such as a clipboard, or a special cubby or shelf.

JAPANESE TRAYS
For many years beautiful lacquerware has been made in the Orient. First the trays are carved from wood, and then painted with many layers of lacquer, creating a beautiful gloss. Today, because of the prohibitive expense of traditional lacquerware, a substitute has been created, the basic construction being plastic, but with the same beautiful lacquer finish.

Here are three small trays which can be used in a number of ways in the classroom—especially in the practical life and language areas. They can be used at home for organizing shelves and serving food. They are of three styles. One is plain black, the second has a gold edging and a traditional gold flower motif, and the third a gold edging and traditional gold cranes motif. 7.5" x 5."

PE456 Small Black tray $5.25
PE580 Small Gold Flower $5.25
PE590 Small Gold Cranes $5.25

SLATTED PINE TRAYS
These soft pine trays, with slatted bases, are very handy for the home, where use is not going to be as extensive as in the classroom. For durability and washability, and to match color coded exercises they can be painted. The small tray is 2" x 11" x 7.5." The large tray is 2" x 13" x 8.5."

(*) PE085 Small Slatted Tray $8.00
(*) PE087 Large Slatted Tray $9.00

HAND CARVED TRAYS
These beautiful trays are carved in the Pacific, of a variety of woods including Mango, Kamani, and Acacia. If they are used with water please show the child how to wipe up spills right away and protect the unfinished wood. Olive oil and lemon wood polishing of the trays is a fine exercise for the child. The colorful variety of wood grain and color will enchant the child as she uses them for organizing toys and materials, serving food, and for other projects. The variety of shapes is a good geometry lesson. The large square tray is 12" wide. The small square tray is 10" wide. The round tray is 10" in diameter, and the rectangular tray is 7" x 4."

(*) PE160 Small Square Tray $14.00
(*) PE162 Large Square Tray $16.00
(*) PE164 Round Tray $14.00
(*) PE166 Rectangular Tray $7.00

GRANITeware TRAYS
The first choice for trays in projects and organization is beautiful wood. But sometimes the child is using water or other materials which could damage the tray. For these exercises strong, waterproof, washable old-fashioned graniteware trays are the best. These round, graniteware trays come in three lovely colors and are 12.5" in diameter.

(*) PE290 Light Yellow Tray $10.50
(*) PE291 Light Green Tray $10.50
(*) PE292 Light Blue Tray $10.50
(*) PE293 Dark Blue Tray $10.50

USA Toll Free ORDER Number: 888.880.9235
The child now spends more time "going out" into the world, for field trips such as shopping at the grocery store for a cooking project, getting office supplies for the classroom, interviewing subjects for history projects, or visiting museums, and so forth.

Whereas at age 3-6 the world was brought into the house of children, now the child begins to go out into the world.

**Environments in The Home**

There are two important things to keep in mind in organizing a child's environment in the home.

1. Have a place in each room for the few, carefully chosen child's belongings: By the front door a stool to sit on and a place to hang coats and keep shoes. In the living room a place for the child's books and toys—neatly, attractively organized. Think out the activities and the materials for all living spaces and arrange the environment to include the child's activities.

2. Don't put out too many toys and books at one time. Those being used by the child at the moment are sufficient. It is a good idea to rotate—taking out those books and toys that have not been chosen lately and removing them to storage for a

---

**TOY BASKET WITH HANDLES**

A large, rectangular (rather than round) toy basket, with sturdy handles is the best thing for organizing toys and other belongings of the child. The shape is good for efficient storage on a shelf or on the floor. The blond willow color lightens the room and focuses the attention on the contents. And the handles fold down to get out of the way when the basket is not being carried. It can be used for light toys, dolls, clothing, a child-size laundry basket, and even for carrying beach or gardening equipment.

The basket is made of willow twigs with metal reinforcement for the handles. It is 8" tall not counting the handles, 16" long, and 12" wide. **PE570 $17.00**

**TOY BASKET/TRAY**

This small basket (or tray) is a very practical size for lining up on shelves—at home or at school. Children can keep their blocks, beads, socks, underwear, art materials, and other things organized at home, and the teacher can use it for many purposes in the classroom. Made in Hong Kong, China, 8" x 11.5." **PE500 $6.00**

**WOODEN DISPLAYS FROM INDIA**

These traditional rich dark wood displays have been made in India for many, many years, but it is becoming difficult to find them.

The paper displays are made of the same ornately carved wood. The larger is 12" long, 3 inches deep, and 7 inches tall with three compartments. The smaller is 8" x 3," 4.5" tall, with four compartments. There are many uses in the classroom, especially for language materials in the various cultural areas. The sliding book display is covered with carvings of animals and flowers. It slides open to make an expandable holder for books. The shortest length is 12.5 inches, and longest is 20 inches.

- **PE010 Large Indian Paper Display $11.00**
- **PE045 Small Indian Paper Display $9.00**
- **PE192 Indian Book Display $9.50**

**HANGING PEGS**

Here are the best hanging peg sets available. They are made completely with wood and come with long screws and wooden finish buttons. The remarkable thing is that the pegs are easily removable, so the child can arrange them to fit his needs. It is very important that they be installed on studs then they will support 12 pounds (the single peg) to 75 pounds (the 24" pegboard) of weight! Suggested uses: A single peg for pajamas in the bedroom or a broom in the kitchen. Rows of 17" or 24" pegboards for children's coats in the classroom. All three sizes come in natural wood which can be left as is, stained, or painted. The 17" peg board comes with a variety of colored pegs.

- **PE170 Single Natural Peg $3.50**
- **PE173 24" Natural Peg Board $11.50**
- **PE171 17" Natural Peg Board $10.00**
- **PE172 17" Colored Peg Board $11.50**

**JAPANESE IRON BELL**

I was first entranced by the sound of Japanese iron bells in a garden near Yokohama. The sound that comes from these traditional iron bells is fine and clear, with a haunting sound from the past.

When children are all working on individual tasks, the teacher sometimes uses such a softly sounding bell to get their attention or announce a celebration. The sound of this bell is perfect. And what a lovely invitation to meals in the home. 2.5" tall, with the traditional relief pattern, it hangs from a cord, with a paper wind chime tail hanging from the metal striker. **PE710 $7.00**

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CHILD of the WORLD, Michael Olaf's Essential Montessori for ages 3-12+, 2000-2001

(*) = new items
PREPARING THE ENVIRONMENT

time. Children grow and change and they need help to keep their environment uncluttered and peaceful.

THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE MIND

Everyone at every age is affected by their environment. Habits of organizing the environment reduce stress and aid the development of an organized, efficient, and creative mind. The Chinese art of placement, or Feng Shui, teaches that clutter, even hidden under a bed or piled on the top of bookcases, is bad for a person.

A child who joins in the arrangement of an environment, at school or at home, and learns to select a few lovely things instead of piles of unused toys, books, clothes, etc., will be aided in many ways with this help in creating good work habits, concentration, and a clear, uncluttered, and peaceful mind.

THE ADULT

The adult model is always the most important element in the environment. It is from observing what we do, not what we say, that the child will learn.

METAL TOAST RACK DISPLAYS

FROM ENGLAND

WHAT! These toast racks, found in the classiest London Hotels, have another use as well. For years these chromium plated racks have been used as lovely desk organizers and language card holders. They are elegant, extremely sturdy, and will last for many years.

The height, with the handle, is 4", and the width is 3". The larger display which has 6 compartments, is 6" long. The smaller, with 4 compartments, is 4.5" in length. Made in England. Of course you may use them as toast racks too!

PE062 Small Metal Display $20.50
PE074 Large Metal Display $22.50

SHELF LABEL

Used by the dozens in homes, school libraries, teachers' storage shelves and in many other ways. We all save time and wear and tear of books and materials when the shelves are labeled and things get put in the correct place. Simply write the label word on a piece of paper, slide it into the label, and place the label on the shelf. It stays on the shelf on its own or is held in place by the books or materials on the shelf. Dimensions: 6" x 4."

PE546 $2.75
PE550 Set/10 $27.00

PLASTIC SET DISPLAYS

There are so many sets of reading cards used at this age that children like displays such as these to keep the cards organized. Used for reading booklets, art postcards, the land and water form cards on the shelf near the land and water forms, a set of poetry cards on the language shelf, and so on. They can be used for organization in the home as well as the classroom for small books, envelopes, and so forth.

They are 5.5" x 4.5" x 2.5." The rounded display, our favorite, is made of textured plastic and more elegant than the rectangular display.

PE31 Rectangular Set Display $5.00
PE32 Rounded Set Display $7.00

PLASTIC BOXES

These handy plastic boxes come in the two most useful sizes for the classroom. The large (PE35) is 6" x 6" x 1", and the small (PE410) is 3" x 3" x 1.75". The covers fit down over the box, much better than hinged plastic boxes which break. They are used for sets of matching and reading cards, stickers, labels, postcards and many other things. The 4" x 6" language cards in this catalogue fit in PE35.

When not in use in the classroom they are perfect for keeping the extra vocabulary cards, language objects, etc. in storage so that the teacher can easily find them for weekly rotation with the others in the classroom.

PE35 6" Box $1.35
PE410 3" Box $1.00

Each vinyl envelope can be cut in half (one taped shut at the bottom), making two, as in this picture.

VINYL ENVELOPES

These envelopes are used for the many vocabulary cards/booklet sets especially in the 6-12 class. The envelopes are of very good quality vinyl, rectangular in shape and open at the short end. (In the illustration the envelope has been cut in half.)

During elementary training we made hundreds of classified cards into booklets and sets of reading cards. We keep them, in the classroom, in these large envelopes which have been cut in half with the bottoms taped shut—getting two envelopes out of each single large one. The envelopes keep biology, geography, all kinds of cards and labels safely together, and the child is able to see what they are through the vinyl.

PE39 Set/12 medium (5" x 8") $12.00
PE40 Set/10 large (6" x 9") $12.00
FAMILY LIFE  CARE OF EACH OTHER  AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The child can only develop by means of experience in his environment.
We call such experience work.
—Dr. Maria Montessori

THE FIRST SIX YEARS

Many people throughout history have noted the importance of the first six years of life.

A child becomes fully a member of her particular culture and family group during these early years. She takes in everything she sees, hears, and feels in balance and walking practice are favorite activities at this age, and very important for the child’s development.

BALANCE BEAM

“Teach by teaching, not by correcting.” Instead of constantly reminding a child to carry things carefully, not to run with scissors, etc., walking and balance games teach careful balance and walking. A balance beam draws children to its challenge to walk carefully, or to walk carrying things and not spilling them.

This six foot long balance beam, made of hard maple, adjusts to two positions, and can easily be manipulated by children for a number of games and challenges—blindfold walking, walking carrying a glass of water, etc. The beam can be in a flat position so that it is 4” wide, or in an upright position, 2” wide, for more advanced walking.

The balance board walk includes four birch plywood walking boards with three-pegged solid maple blocks for arranging walking paths. The walking boards are 4” wide and 44” long.

(This is a special Order: It can sometimes take up a month to receive this after ordering and it will be sent separately from the rest of your order. Please keep this in mind if you are ordering it as a gift.)

CR620 Balance Beam $83.75
(*) CR690 Balance Board Walk $134.50

MANNERS & FEELINGS BOOKS

These two books go together to show children just that the way we treat each other determines how we all feel. “Manners are the way people behave. Manners are the way you treat others. Good manners make you nice. They make others want to be with you.”

Both books are full of scenarios in which children are acting out situations and talking to each other, much as manners are taught in the classroom. Children can relate to this way of presenting ideas. The pictures are funny and sad and very interesting. It is rare to have a child want to put either book down finishing. And he will want to have them read to him, or to read them himself over and over again. Both books are by Aliki, a favorite children’s book author/illustrator. Hardcover, color, approximately 30 pages.

DB10 Manners $16.00
DB11 Feelings $16.00

THE PHILHARMONIC GETS DRESSED

Children are fascinated with bathing and dressing at this age. It is a favorite activity, topic of conversation, and subject for books. And here is the most interesting dressing book there is—a symphony orchestra getting bathed and dressed, in many different ways, to perform in a concert.

“First they get washed. There are ninety-two men and thirteen women. Many take showers. A few take baths. When they have finished washing, they dry. They use big towels and little towels and a lot of dusting powder.” The lovable text is accompanied by funny drawings. This book, which presents famous musicians doing just what everyone else does, is a favorite of children, and of musicians of all ages. Softcover, color, 7” x 9”, 42 pages.

DR116 $5.95

WHO’S IN A FAMILY

For many sociological and economic reasons the traditional “nuclear” family—with both biological parents and full brothers and sisters living together—is in the minority today. According to the US Census Bureau, 24% of our children live in one-parent families and nearly 17 million live in "blended families" or extended families.

Whatever the situation, every child is entitled to feel good about his or her family. In this charming picture book children see a positive reflection of themselves, their friends, the people they care about. Who is in a family? The people who love you the most! Softcover, 8.5” x 9.5”, color, 32 pages.

DB12 $6.95
AGE 3-6  FAMILY LIFE - Care of Each Other and the Environment

her environment. A child who loves herself and feels safe in the world, who has experienced the joy of making a contribution to her group, and who has fallen in love with work, learning, and loving, is fortunate indeed.

Every child, by instinct, wants to learn and grow to the limit of his abilities. Before the age of six he does this by imitating those around him. To help him we must carefully prepare the physical and social environment, for this is the way culture, and moral and spiritual beliefs, are passed on.

CHILDREN'S APRONS
GUATEMALAN FABRICS

Aprons set the stage for, and add respect toward important work. They mark the beginning and the end of the cycle of work. These beautiful aprons can be used for cleaning, dusting, caring for plants, cooking, setting table, polishing furniture, any work in the home.

They are made of beautiful cotton fabrics from Guatemala. The neck band easily slips over the head, and there is a single waist strap with a velcro fastener at the end so the child can fasten his own apron—and not be dependent on an adult.

The patterns and colors are always a surprise, 18" and 21" long (not counting the strap), preshrunk, machine washable, 100% cotton. The small apron fits an average 3-6 year-old, and the medium apron an average 6-8 year old.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APRON SIZE</th>
<th>SMALL APRON</th>
<th>MEDIUM APRON</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DR01 Small</td>
<td>$13.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DR030 Medium</td>
<td>$14.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WORK GLOVES

Just like the aprons, gloves add an element of importance to the child's work. Whether or not the gloves are really necessary for the work, it is like dressing the part, and marks the beginning and ending of the cycle of work. These are exact duplicates of adult work gloves in the hard to find child's size for ages two to seven. They are made of cotton duck with soft suede palms and knit cuffs. Good for carrying in fire wood, woodwork, helping in the garden, even carrying in the groceries, whenever a child wants to feel like he is doing real work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GLOVE SIZE</th>
<th>SMALL (2-5)</th>
<th>MEDIUM (5-7)</th>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DR27 Medium</td>
<td>$5.50</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

BROOMS AND MOPS

These sturdy children's brooms and mops are made by a manufacturer of adult brooms and mops. The handles are between 30" and 31". The head of the dust mop can be removed and washed. The cotton mop is an old fashioned replica of the one we all used before sponge mops were invented and many people still prefer it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BROOM SIZE</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>MOP SIZE</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DR860 3-6 Broom</td>
<td>$5.25</td>
<td>DR862 3-6 Dust Mop</td>
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<tr>
<td>DR864 3-6 Sponge Mop</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>DR866 3-6 String mop</td>
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<tr>
<td>DR868 3-6 Push Broom</td>
<td>$8.50</td>
<td>DR877 Home Set/3</td>
<td>$18.50</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

TINY DUST PAN & WHISK BROOM

This is an excellent quality, stainless steel and wood set which can be hung on the wall anywhere in the house or school for quick use. It can be used for cleaning a table, cleaning up spilled beans and rice, or with a large broom to get those tiny last bits. The broom is perfect for small hands and is easily attached to the pan by a magnet. Length 5.5", width, at the base 4.5".

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PAN SIZE</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DR35</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Toll Free ORDER Number 888.880.9235
PARTICIPATING IN FAMILY LIFE

The traditional work of the family is known as "Practical Life Work." It is the single most important area of an education for life. Allowing the child to participate in the daily work he sees going on around him is an act of great respect for, and confidence in, the child. It helps him to feel important to himself and to those around him. He is needed.

We can empathize if we think of the difference in our feelings for a dinner guest in our home who is completely served and waited on, or for one who is welcomed in our kitchen to talk and to laugh while we prepare the meal together.

The three main areas of "Practical Life" activities are:

1. care of the environment—cleaning, sweeping, washing clothes, gardening, etc.,
2. the care of the person—dressing, brushing teeth, cooking, setting the table, etc., and,
3. grace and courtesy—walking carefully, carrying things, moving gracefully, offering food, saying "please" and "thank you" and so on.

METAL BUCKETS

These sturdy metal children's buckets are made by Brio in Sweden. The handles are steel, with a carved wooden hand grip. The buckets themselves are coated with a brightly colored enamel paint that ensures that the buckets are waterproof.

They can be used for cleaning, for carrying water to and from water exercises in the 3-6 classroom, for sand and water play at the beach, for gardening, or any other activity that requires a real, child-size bucket. The height is 5.5 inches, the diameter at the top is 6.5". The buckets come in three colors.

DR37 Red Bucket $10.00
DR38 Blue Bucket $10.00
DR39 Green Bucket $10.00

BRUSHES

For cleaning vegetables, the car, the sink, the floor, etc., children love to use wooden brushes that exactly fit their hands. The oval brush is made of wood, with white nylon bristles. It is 3 inches long. The round wooden brush, with natural bristles, is from Germany. It has a large, round handle, is 3" tall, and 3" in diameter.

DR716 Oval Brush $2.25
DR20 Round Brush $3.25

POP-UP SPONGES.

Package of 4

Sponges have replaced dishcloths in the daily work of adults and children these days. There are sponges of many different qualities, some that last only a few days and come apart in the child’s hands. These pop-up sponges are of the very best quality. They can be cut into smaller pieces if you like (for smaller hands) and kept on a tray for the child to find whenever they are needed.

Pop-ups sponges are fun. This package contains 4 sponges which are 4" long and 1" wide and 1/4" thick. When they’re placed in water they immediately expand to 4.5" in length, 3.5" in width, and 1" in thickness! This teaches the amazing characteristic of sponges. Although we cannot guarantee this, the package usually comes in four colors: pink, green, yellow, and blue. The last three colors match the new graniteware buckets and handwashing sets.

DR015 $3.00

ENAMEL, GRANITEWARE WASHING SET

For washing hands, clothes, even vegetables. Developing the habit of washing hands before eating, and after going to the bathroom, is easier with this special set. This large, sturdy spotted enamel washing ensemble was used in the early days before indoor plumbing. For the classroom or the home it adds a touch of history to a common exercise, and is a pleasant alternative to plastic.

The wash basin is 12.5" across at the top and 4" deep. The old-fashioned pitcher is 8.5" tall and 10.5" across. The color is a rich blue marbling on a white background.

DR850 Dark Blue Basin $12.00
DR853 Dark Blue Pitcher $34.00
DR856 Dark Blue Set/2 $45.00

NEW COLORS:

(*) DR870 Light Green Basin $12.00
(*) DR871 Light Green Pitcher $34.00
(*) DR872 Light Green Set/2 $45.00

(*) DR873 Light Blue Basin $12.00
(*) DR874 Light Blue Pitcher $34.00
(*) DR875 Light Blue Set/2 $45.00

(*) DR886 Light Yellow Basin $12.00
(*) DR887 Light Yellow Pitcher $34.00
(*) DR888 Light Yellow Set/2 $45.00

ENAMEL, GRANITEWARE BUCKETS

These new, extremely sturdy, buckets exactly match the basins and pitchers above. Some classrooms have one color in the garden, one for handwashing, one for washing clothes, another for washing fruits and vegetables. The buckets are 5.5" tall and 6.5" in diameter at the top. The handle has a wooden grip.

(*) DR405 Light Green Bucket $11.50
(*) DR406 Light Blue Bucket $11.50
(*) DR404 Dark Blue Bucket $11.50
(*) DR407 Light Yellow Bucket $11.50
Children have always shown us their interests in all three areas by pretending to cook, clean, take care of a baby, have tea parties, carry out adult conversations, but when given the chance they would much rather be doing the real work of the family and community along with others.

Instead of "making-believe" a child would almost always prefer to remove dust from a dusty shelf with a real child-sized duster, pour out real herb tea or juice from a porcelain tea pot, or pound a real nail into a piece of wood to make a simple bird feeder that the family will use. And he would rather be mixing a bit of flour and egg with a real hand mixer to help with the family breakfast instead of always playing at cooking.

**THE CHILD'S PURPOSE**

The child's reason for, and way of, working is different from ours. We adults will usually choose to do things the most efficient and quickest way. A child, on the other hand, is working to master the activity and to practice and perfect her abilities. She may scrub a table for hours, but only when she feels the urge. She may sweep the floor.

**DRYING RACK**

This vinyl-covered metal drying rack is just the right size for children to hang up art work to dry or clothes and clothing that they have washed. One of the advantages of this method of drying over the clothes pin and line is that the very young child who has not yet learned to use a clothes pin can still do this part of the work cycle without the help of the adult. The drying rack is also very handy at home; it can be placed in the bathtub for any member of the family to dry handwashed articles of clothing, or slightly damp play/work clothes or aprons.

The drying rack is 32.5” tall, 34.5” long at the tap, and 21.5” wide.

(*) DR055 $20.00

**ROLLING STORAGE UNIT**

Handy in the kitchen, the garage, the bedroom, the classroom, anywhere a child lives and works and plays. The rolling storage unit is very light and easy for the child to move. A child can load the unit with the dishes, flatware and napkins, and roll it to set the table. He can sort the laundry onto the shelves and roll it into the bedroom. Or just enjoy being able to move his belongings from place to place. It is also an inexpensive way to keep a child's gardening or outside toys in order in the garage. The vinyl-covered metal unit is 24.5” tall, 16” wide, and 10” deep.

(*) DR057 $20.00

**TINY DRAWSTRING BAG**

For buttons, shells, tiny precious stones, the tooth fairy, or for practicing an ancient way to open and close a bag. This tiny drawstring bag from Thailand has a delicate cross stitch panel on one side and is fully lined. It is beautiful and practical. 3.25” long. It comes in varied colors.

DR096 $2.75

**NEEDLE CASES**

These little wooden needle cases are used for holding needles and pins when a child is learning how to sew. They can be used in the home by a parent, and then the child may have his own special needle case in the sewing basket. They can be painted or left natural. Maple, 2.25” long.

CR44 Set/2 $2.50

**HAND VACUUM**

Children want to do real work and this lightweight (2.5 pounds) hand vacuum allows him to participate in the family cleaning. It is cordless and rechargeable and can clean carpets, rugs, or bare floors. There are no vacuum bags to deal with, just dust cups that are easy to empty. The young child will use both hands and the older child and adult one hand to hold and to operate the vacuum. The vacuum will run for 10-12 minutes after each charging. Made by the renowned Eureka vacuum company. Be sure and tell the child that this is not for use on wet surfaces. The black hand vacuum is 17 inches long and should be kept attached to the charger, either hung on the wall, or sitting on the floor, so it is always ready to operate.

(*) DR050 $32.00
every morning for two weeks and not again for a month—because she will be occupied with mastering something else. If we expected her to keep carrying out every new activity every day, there would be no time for sleep.

There are many physical, emotional and mental values of this work. Through these activities the child learns to be independent. This is important because there can be no intelligent choice or responsibility at any age without independence in thought and action. She learns to concentrate, to control muscles, to move and act with care, to focus, to analyze logical steps and complete a cycle of activity. As long as the activity contains all of these elements, the mind and hand working together, any work or play will benefit the child.

NESTING HAMMER & SCREWDRIVERS
For a three-to-six year old this serves as a satisfying puzzle as well as a good set of tools because the hammer and screwdrivers can always be found together. This is a special indoor tool, for the home or the classroom. A steel and brass hammer containing four regular size to tiny screwdrivers that screw one inside the next.

They are real tools. The length of the hammer is almost 8" and the smallest screwdriver is a little over an inch long. Age three to adult.

DR36 $6.50

TOOL SET
These tools are made in the same manner is real tools for adults, but in smaller sizes. The set includes a hammer, both a slotted and a Phillips screwdriver, a set of Allen wrenches, a pair of adjustable pliers, a tape measure, a small flashlight (2 AA batteries needed), and a pouch for a child to carry the tools she is using fastened to a belt or cord. The boxed set includes a pamphlet of drawings, names, and instructions for the use of these and other tools. The hammer is 7.5" long, the screwdrivers 6" long. The manufacturer says "for ages eight and up" but with care and adult supervision we recommend teaching the names and the use of these tools.

USE UNDER ADULT SUPERVISION.
DR680 $15.00

TOOL BOX
This sturdy birch and maple box with a dowel handle helps the child keep her tools organized and easy to transport to the work site in the classroom. The necessary household tools can be kept within reach for the parent or child in the home. 18.5" long, 6.5" wide, and 9" tall.

(*) DR682 $26.25

WORK BENCH
This rugged, durable child-size work bench will encourage real, safe work in the classroom or at home. It is equipped with a six-inch vise and predrilled to accommodate an additional vise. The top is made from one-inch hard ply laminate, manufactured especially for use as adult work bench tops. This work bench can also be used as a garden bench or for other purposes, enabling the parent and child to work on projects together in the home. The top is 19" wide and 46" long. The height is 24 inches.

(*) DR684 $223.75
Arranging the cooking and dining areas for the work of the child does not have to be a giant undertaking, and it does not need to be done all at once. Consider giving the child one low shelf or one drawer in the kitchen in the beginning. This could contain a cutting board and safe knife, or cereal bowls and spoons—whatever the child is most likely to use most often.

A stool is a good first investment, so the child can reach the sink or the counter, for work at the counter and sink. Even better, if there is room, have a small table and chair or stool out of the way where the child can prepare and eat snacks, or do his share of the food preparation.

In the classroom, there should always be a space for children to prepare snack at

**SMALL COLANDER**

This is a very good quality, stainless steel, childsize colander. With it the child can work right alongside the adult, cutting the freshly washed baby carrots and draining them. 2.5" tall, 5.25" across.

(*) DR020 $5.25

**LARGE MOUTH FUNNEL**

Here is a tool that has been used in our kitchen for years, at least once a week, by children and adults. It makes pouring fun and easy. We use it to pour applesauce into lunch jars, to pour leftover soup into mason jars, and to put away the bulk granola, beans, rice, etc. that we buy at the grocery store every week. And of course it can be used for its original intention—canning! In class children have a tray with two short jars and practice pouring beans with this funnel. Stainless steel, made in China, 5.75" in diameter, 2.5" tall.

DR310 $10.75

**APPLE SLICER**

Neatly core an apple and slice it into twelve even segments for a special snack preparation exercise. With a little help from the adult, even very young children can enjoy using this tool. This apple slicer has stainless steel blades, two solid easy-grip handles, best quality, made in Germany. It is 6.75" long.

DR21 $18.00

**OLIVE WOOD NUTCRACKER**

The beautifully grained olive wood of this elegant version attracts children and adults alike. It is a piece of art as well as an important tool for cracking nuts and giving the wrists practice in control—indirect preparation for writing. The nutcracker is 5.5" long when extended.

DR250 $9.75

**SURIBACHI**

*(JAPANESE MORTAR AND PESTLE)*

This is an Asian version of the mortar and pestle which has been used for centuries in Japan. For a good cultural lesson, lightly toast sesame seeds in a dry skillet, grinding them with sea salt, and use this mixture "gomasio" instead of salt at family meals, or as a Japanese taste experience at school. It is delicious and very healthful.

The ceramic bowl is 6" in diameter and 2.5" high. The inside is unglazed and ridged for a grinding surface. The top and outside is a brown earthenware glaze. The carved wooden pestle is 7" long and a little over an inch at its largest diameter.

DR756 $14.00

**VEGETABLE PEELER**

Just the right size for the smallest hand for peeling carrots, potatoes, a favorite in communities of young children. This European vegetable peeler is 4" long.

USE UNDER ADULT SUPERVISION.

DR43 $4.25

**TINY CLEAVER**

This childsize cleaver knife looks just like the ones used by French chefs, but it is only six inches long! It is made in Japan of stainless steel, with a wooden handle. The blade is 3.5" long, and safe enough for a child. USE UNDER ADULT SUPERVISION.

DR45 $3.75
any time of the day, and lessons on how to do it and how to clean it up after in preparation for use by the next child.

This is an exercise in contributing to the good of others—preparing and serving snack, and cleaning up.

** Practical Life Tasks **

**As the Foundation for All Later Work**

It is not uncommon for the value of practical life or family life exercise to be misunderstood. I have heard parents exclaim in dismay that their child is “wasting time cleaning in her new Montessori school when she should be doing math!” However, math and all other intellectual work requires the ability to move carefully, to focus, to complete sequential steps, to concentrate, to make intelligent choices and to persevere in one’s work. This is exactly what is learned during practical life work. As a result of periods of time spent concentrating on such a task a child becomes

** Glass Juicer **

For years we have searched the antique shops for these heavy, glass, old-fashioned fruit juice squeezers. Today they are coming back into fashion and are even made in a perfect size for children! There is no substitute for the pleasure of hand squeezing the juice from a lemon or an orange with this tool. The child holds on to the glass handle, then pours the juice out via the spout. In a Casa de Los Ninos I visited in Mexico the children had fresh squeezed lemon water available all day at the snack table. Height 2.5” in the middle, base diameter 4”.

DR46 Measuring Cups, Set/4 $10.00
DR315 Measuring Spoons, Set/4 $5.50

** Mouli **

The French food processor for children. This has always been a favorite kitchen tool for children in our home. It provides a wonderful work cycle: selecting the size grating wheel, assembling the mouli, folding down the legs, grating the Parmesan or the vegetables (yes, the smallest size wheel makes even hard Parmesan easy for a child to grate!), taking the mouli apart and scrubbing it with a brush, then putting it away, and serving the cheese. It is plastic and metal and comes with three different five-inch grating wheels. Made in France.

DR23 $24.00

** MINI GRATER & JUICER **

This amazing set of tools can grate, shred, juice, pour, measure, and separate eggs. The grating attachment fits snugly on top of the measuring cup so that all of the carrot or cheese goes into the container and small hands are protected. If you have not used an egg separator you are in for a treat. Even children will overcome their hesitation about cracking eggs with this little tool. All of the parts conveniently store inside the 5” x 3” x 3”, 2-cup measure, and children enjoy the challenge of putting this “puzzle” of pieces together after it is washed and dried.

DR066 $10.00

** Chicken-Egg Timer **

This charming old-fashioned egg timer is an addition to any home or classroom. Although intended for learning to follow recipes “stir over low heat for fifteen minutes”, it can also be used for timing all kinds of activities, from running (since we do not compete against each other, but try to improve our own developing skills) to math. The 60-minute Chicken-Egg Timer, made in China, is white with a red comb, yellow beak and black eyes, and it is 3” tall.

DR613 $7.75

** MEASURING CUPS & SPOONS **

We have chosen these particular measuring spoons and cups because of the superior quality, and the very secure grasp possible with these handles.

In a 3-6 class in Japan I once saw an activity called “Curry-Making” in which the appropriate measuring cups and spoons, very like these, were laid out with the ingredients, as a completely prepared activity—and the child-cooked curry was served for lunch. The longest of the four measuring cups is 6”, and the longest of the set of four measuring spoons is 3.5”. They are made in China of stainless steel.

DR312 Measuring Cups, Set/4 $10.00
DR315 Measuring Spoons, Set/4 $5.50
calm and satisfied and, because of this inner peace, full of love for others.

Perhaps an even more important result of this work is that the child sees himself already as an important and contributing member of the group, and as an intimate friend, when he is welcome to participate in the work of the adult. Think about the difference between how close you feel to your own guests. If all the work is done by you in anticipation for the guest’s arrival, that is one relationship. When a friend joins you in your preparation of the meal, that is a closer relationship. The child benefits most from this close relationship with the parent, whether it be in washing or cutting up the vegetables, washing or drying the dishes, setting the table, cleaning out the cupboards or refrigerator, mixing the muffin batter, and so forth.

When a child has a lot of experience with the important developmental tasks called "practical life" he becomes more successful in all other areas of study and relating to others.

The most important discovery is that a child returns to a normal state through work. Countless experiments made upon children of every race throughout the world have shown that this is the most certain datum that we have in the field of practical life.

MUFFIN BAKING SET

These tools provide a way for the child to participate with real baking, and the set is always a welcome birthday present. It includes: an eggbeater, a muffin pan, muffin papers, a bread pan and a rolling pin.

This is a collection of real, well-made kitchen tools, made for adults, which happen to be the perfect sizes for children. The eggbeater (which comes in different styles) fits easily into the hand of a three or four year old and turns easily. The bread pan can be used to make child-size quick breads or yeast breads using a little of the dough from a regular recipe. The tiny rolling pin is used in Italy to smooth the tops of ravioli and is of the best quality, and the little muffin pans and papers are favorites of Swedish children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DR173 Eggbeater</td>
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<tr>
<td>DR174 Muffin Pan</td>
<td>$3.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>DR175 Muffin Papers, 100</td>
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<td>DR176 Bread Pan</td>
<td>$1.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>DR177 Rolling Pin</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DR18 Muffin Baking Set</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COFFEE GRINDER

The first time I saw one of these devises in use was when I was visiting a classroom and a child ground coffee and made a cup for me! I was astounded. This replica of the traditional European coffee grinder is made in Asia, of hardwood and metal, with an adjustable grinding mechanism. It is 6" x 6" at the base, and 10" tall.

(*) DR070 $35.50

HONEY/SYRUP DISPENSER

When we first discovered this jewel of a honey server we gave it to all of our relatives for the holidays! Honey and maple syrup is so much better for children than sugar, and this utensil allows a child to serve himself without making a mess. With the squeeze of a button the honey or syrup is dispensed through the bottom of the glass container. Then the container is placed back in the glass holder/stand which is included. The honey dispenser, with the stand, is 6" tall.

(*) DR074 $14.50

COFFEE/TEA FRENCH PRESS

This handy device allows the child to make a single cup of freshly ground coffee, or herb tea, for the parent, teacher, or classroom visitor. The younger child of course will need help pouring the boiling water. The French press is made of Pyrex glass in a contemporary black plastic frame. It is 7.75" tall.

(*) DR072 $17.50

NOTE: See coffee cozy on the next page.
psychology and education. A child's desire to work represents a vital instinct since he cannot organize his personality without working: a man builds himself through working. There can be no substitute for work, neither affection nor physical well-being can replace it. A man builds himself by carrying out manual labor in which he uses his hands as the instruments of his personality and as an expression of his intellect and will help him to dominate his environment. A child's instinct for work is a proof that work is instinctive to man and characteristic of the species.

if we showed them exactly how to do something, this precision itself seemed to hold their interest. To have a real purpose to which the action was directed, this was the first condition, but the exact way of doing it acted like a support which rendered the child stable in his

FLATWARE
Half the trouble children have in learning to eat properly with silver is the size of the utensils. And children's flatware is often made of materials and with decorations which further complicate the problem.

Any child will welcome this elegant 3-piece child's place setting of stainless steel flatware, made by the sterling silversmiths Oneida (in their famous Paul Revere pattern). The perfect size - spoon 5.1" long, knife 6.2", and fork 5.8". They come in a lovely gift box.

The individual flatware pieces are made by the same famous company as our boxed set. They are lighter weight but very good quality—the best non-packaged children's utensils we can find. Excellent for the classroom, and the daily meals at home.

DR60 Flatware Gift Set $20.00
DR616 Spoon $2.50
DR617 Fork $4.00
DR618 Knife $4.00

PORCELAIN TEA (OR JUICE) SET
This set is made of high-quality, beautiful white porcelain, the best available. We tested every small tea pot we could find before choosing this one; it has a wide base, a good handle, and the lid fits securely as a child is pouring. It holds enough tea for the four cups and is 4" tall. The cups are 2.25" tall and the saucers 4.5" in diameter. The set of four little plates and cups can be used as teacups and saucers, or as little mugs and snack plates. (They are espresso cups.) Sizes: small cream pitcher for serving milk at "tea time" (2.5"), serving plate for crackers, or to be used as a lunch plate (6.5"), tall juice pitcher in case the choice is juice instead of tea (3.5").

DR53 Juice/Tea Pot $17.50
DR54 Set of 4 cups & Saucers $23.00
DR55 Set: pot-cups-saucers $37.00

CR36 Porcelain Lunch Plate $4.25
CR37 Porcelain Bowl $4.25
CR38 Porcelain Cup $3.00
CR385 Porcelain Dishes Set/3 $11.25

COMPLETET SET, for home or snack table: tea pot, 4 cups and saucers, cream pitcher, five plates (one for serving, four for lunch), and a juice pitcher.

DR62 $69.00

FIRST PORCELAIN DISHES
Real porcelain dishes and cups are not for the child to play with, but are to be used, under adult supervision, for the child's daily or special meals. Setting the table, eating, and washing up real porcelain dishes challenges a child to be careful. This shows respect for a child, and she will rise to the responsibility with pride.

The white porcelain lunch plate is 6.5" in diameter and has a slight ridge to help the child get the food onto the fork. The white porcelain bowl, for soup or cereal, is 5.5" in diameter.

DR040 Large Cozy $24.00
(*) DR042 Small Cozy $24.00
efforts, and therefore brought him to make progress in his development. Order and precision, we found, were the keys to spontaneous work in the school.

—Dr. Maria Montessori

THE NEEDS OF THE PARENT

Parents do not always have the time to include the child in everything and should not feel bad about this. A teacher is available to the child for this work all day long, and trained to give lessons and help the child grow toward independence. It is too much to expect a new parent, or a busy parent to do this perfectly. We must be easy on ourselves in the home and plan a time when we will enjoy work as well as the children.

Begin with just one thing, perhaps putting the napkins on the table for a meal, and gradually add to the tasks in which the child can participate, and eventually take over. This effort on the part of the parent pays off for the adult as well as the child as we observe that the child's method of working is not just to get the task finished, but to enjoy it!

One of the lessons we can learn from the child is how to bring our whole selves, mentally, physically, and spiritually, to the task at hand, to focus on each thing we do, and to enjoy each moment of life.

JAPANESE FISH PLATE
JAPANESE FLOWER BOWL

These lovely blue Japanese serving bowls and plates are probably our favorite pottery at home. The shape and texture on the fish plate are so realistic that one can even feel the raised fins and scales. The glaze is a rich blue fading into browns, just like a tropical fish. We use ours at least once a day at home and keep one on the stove for a spoon rest. It will add a special touch to the snack table at school. The fish plate is almost 6 inches long, 4.5 inches wide.

The beautiful flower bowl is used for elegant tiny snacks, such as raisins, grapes, cheese cubes, and also for many practical life exercises in the classroom. It is 3” in diameter, and glazed in a rich dark blue.

DR026 Fish Plate $5.50
DR031 Flower Bowl $3.90

WOODEN SPOONING BOWLS SET

From the same beautiful woods as the wooden serving bowl, this set of two bowls on a tray can be set out as an exercise in spooning practice for the very young child. Two carved spoons come with the set but we recommend using the children's flatware spoons instead. The tray is 10" x 4.5." (*) DR037 $12.00

WOODEN SERVING BOWL

This beautiful small wooden serving bowl is handmade of Kamani, Acacia, or Mango hardwoods, sustainably forested in the pacific Islands. As with all wooden products, it should be used only for dry ingredients—to serve nuts, vegetables, and so forth, never soaked in water, and occasionally oiled with olive oil. It is 3.5" in diameter. (*) DR033 $3.00

KENYAN ANIMAL SPOONS

Since the beginning of time people have carved and decorated the items they use in their daily life - bowls, spoons, clothing, furniture, combs, mirrors, everything. Our museums are filled with these precious artifacts. These spoons show children that this is still being done today all over the world. They are carved in wood in Kenya, East Africa. Each shipment is different but each spoon has some kind of an African animal carved into the end. Approximately 7” long.

DR045 1 Kenyan Spoon $3.50
DR046 Set/3 Different Spoons $9.00

OLIVE WOOD FROM SPAIN

This olive wood has the most beautiful grain we have seen. The cutting/serving board, and snack plate add a touch of elegance to any table. In Sweden children use these boards for snack or picnic plates instead of paper plates. The board is 8.25" x 4.25", and the little olive wood plate is 4.25" in diameter. The olive wood coaster, which can be used for small vases of flowers, glasses and cups and many other uses at home and in the classroom, is 3.25" in diameter.

DR471 Olive Wood Board $8.75
DR475 Olive Wood Plate $5.50
DR465 Olive Wood Coaster $2.50

USA Toll Free ORDER Number 888.880.9235
TOYS & GAMES

ACTIVE PLAY
It takes work on the part of the adult to withstand the temptation to let the child spend hours in front of the television or the computer, but it is well worth the effort to support the natural development of the child. Television accustoms the child to be a passive receiver of information rather than an active questioner or researcher. And the intelligence of computers does not hold a candle to the kind of creativity inborn in the human being.

MATRESHKAS
“Russian Nesting Dolls” are a traditional folk toy representing the passing of one generation to the next. Each region has its own traditional style of doll. Ours come from Semenov, Zagorsk, Kalinin, Kirov and Brest. We offer them in three sizes.

We have seen them used in schools for children of all ages—from one doll in an infant class, to 6-12 classes where they are used to demonstrate the relationship in plant and animal classification. Many families collect beautiful Matreshkas as family heirlooms.

DT14 Small (4 dolls) $9.50
DT15 Medium (6 dolls) $15.00

COLOR PADDLES
This is a fun and clear introduction to the concept of color mixing and a preparation for art and for physics.

These six transparent plastic paddles can be combined to show the formation of the secondary colors. The primary colors are red, blue, and yellow. If we combine any two of these we will make one of the secondary colors of green, purple, or orange.

Along with the primary colors, there is one paddle each of the secondary colors for further exploration. 6 inches long.

DT347 Paddles, Set/6 $7.00

TRADITIONAL AMERICAN GAMES
These games are making a comeback as parents, grandparents, and teachers look back to their own childhoods to find healthful alternatives to television and computers as the main entertainment for children. These particular games are very good for a child's dexterity and concentration.

Jacks contains a red rubber ball, metal jacks, and directions, in a natural cloth bag. Pickup Sticks contains thirty-one 7” red, blue, green, and yellow wooden pickup sticks in a lovely wooden case.

DT580 Jacks $5.50
DT590 Pickup Sticks $11.00

CHINESE CHECKERS
This game of Chinese checkers is made of a wooden board and colored wooden pegs and is enjoyed by children and adults.

As well as a favorite traditional game, we recommend it as a valuable patterning activity for children because pegs like these support fine motor development. The youngest child will spend a long and happy time taking the pegs in and out of the holes, gradually learning to sort them by color and then to make patterns and designs. She will be proud to have important work to do with something she sees older children and adults “work” with (when playing Chinese checkers).

Even older children have been known to have their handwriting magically improve after practice with small knobs. 12” in diameter.

DT32 $16.50
AGE 3-6 TOYS & GAMES

 learns—to lace his shoes, to thread a needle, to fly a kite or to play a penny whistle. With the practical action there goes another, namely finding pleasure in action for its own sake—in the skill that one perfects by being pleased with it. This at the bottom is responsible for every work of art, and science too: our poetic delight in what human beings do because they can do it. The hand is the cutting edge of the mind.

—Jacob Bronowski
'The Ascent of Man'

THE SENSES

The young child is vividly aware of the world, taking in impressions through all of her senses. It is also the time of life when lifelong preferences are formed. If we want to lay the groundwork for the child’s later ability to create an organized, peaceful and calm, but stimulating, life-supporting, and beautiful environment, we must provide just such an

**SORTING TRAY AND SHELLS**

Classifying and sorting objects into this beautiful wooden tray is a favorite, very satisfying, activity for children. They do it first visually, then even blindfolded. Sorting is a function of the mathematical mind and a lot of fun. The beautiful wood tray adds satisfaction to this work. It can be used for sorting many kinds of small items—rocks, buttons, beans, coins, seeds, etc. The tray is about 7” x 12”, made of finely polished hardwood. The set of forty small shells contains ten each of four different kinds.

- DT12 Sorting Tray $22.00
- DT13 Shells $2.75
- DT125 Tray/Shells $24.00

**COLORED CYLINDERS**

The visual discrimination of sizes and shapes is made clear with these cylinder puzzles. They can even eventually be done blindfolded. Each natural hardwood block holds seven cylinders which vary in dimensions in four different ways, and each has its own vocabulary for the child to learn.

The blue cylinders vary in height, the diameter staying the same, clearly showing "tall" and "short." The green cylinders vary in diameter and height "large" and "small." The red cylinders vary in diameter, height staying the same, showing "thick" and "thin." The yellow cylinders vary in height and diameter, showing "short and wide" to "tall and thin." Each block of cylinders is 9.5” x 2.5” x 2.5”. These are similar to the cylinder blocks and the knobless cylinders which are basic sensorial materials in the Montessori 3-6 class.

- DT046 $55.00

**HAMMER BOARD**

One of our most popular toys, this version of the favorite traditional hammering toy is made in Germany. It comes with a natural cork base for pounding, that is 10” x 6.5”. There are 60 wooden pieces—triangles, crescents, circles, rhombi, squares, rectangles—painted red, green, blue and yellow. The nails are rounded at the top and easy to handle and the wooden hammer is just the right size and weight for this work.

- DT42 $26.00

**LACING BOARD**

This lacing board comes after the Sew’n’Sew for some children, and before for some, depending on their individual ability. It gives further practice in the hand movements of sewing—excellent for eye-hand control. It also provides an opportunity for the child to make patterns, to visualize and try to create pictures, all good preparation for other needlework and other artwork. There are six 36-inch cords, in primary and secondary colors, to facilitate creative designs. The wooden board is 6.5” x 5.5”, made in Thailand.

- DT237 $12.00

USA Toll Free ORDER Number 888.880.9235
environment now.

This is the reason we take special care in providing toys made of a variety of lovely, natural materials for the young child, interesting toys rich in variety of weight, color, texture, and purpose, of the best quality available. We make sure these toys engage the child's intelligence as well as his body.

**Toys**

There are special toys or *sensorial* puzzles in the 3-6 class, such as the "pink tower", the "color tablets", and the "sound boxes", which give very clear experiences of important concepts such as "large and small", "hot and cold", "loud and soft" and so on. These *sensorial materials* are not necessary in the home, where parents can find other ways of introducing these experiences in the daily life of children—feeling the temperature of the bath water, exploring tastes while baking, and color or size with toys, etc.

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**The Farm**

A *Farm* is found in almost every 3-6 classroom. Besides the value of arranging the farm and acting out the daily life of the humans and animals, it is used in the language area. Vocabulary is taught and little language games are played: for example the child learns about nouns and adjectives by labeling the different sized and colored animals.

This farm is made in Germany. It is constructed of sturdy, washable plastic and can be used inside or outside. Included in this deluxe set is: The Farmhouse or Barn (In Germany these used to be housed in the same building—people upstairs, animals below.) Stable, 4 fences, tractor with attached wagon, man and women, 8 animal figures, and directions for assembling.

For use with the language games there is also a set of extra animals. These are not always the same, but the set will always contain between 7-8 of the best animals available at the moment for the purpose of vocabulary.

(*) DT080 Farm and Animals $100.00

(*) DT081 Extra Animals $20.00

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**Ball Tilt**

Who would think problem solving could be so much fun. There are many ways that these hard Maple blocks with grooves and holes can be combined and arranged to make the marbles roll at different speeds and in different directions. One of the units contains a brass bell hung from a red string. The blocks can be arranged so that, as the marbles roll, the bell is rung. This set can be combined with any building blocks for even more fun. There are 48 carefully sanded and finished pieces in all.

(*) DT023 $69.00

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**Catapult**

The wooden catapult, just like the rubber band toy, is operated by the energy of a taught rubber band. It will accurately toss a ping pong ball 12 to 14 feet. We recommend that this be used for an older child, age five or six, and under adult supervision at first. Wood and rubber, 7 inches long. Six ping-pong balls and directions are included. CONTAINS SMALL RUBBER BANDS. USE UNDER ADULT SUPERVISION.

DT710 $18.50

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**Rubber Band Car**

This wooden car is operated by energy stored in a wound rubber band. In the process of winding, once or twice or a lot more, a child learns about the physics principles involved. With two cars children can compare the distance cars can go when the rubber band is wound a contrasting number of times. Wood and rubber, 7 inches long. CONTAINS SMALL RUBBER BANDS. USE UNDER ADULT SUPERVISION.

DT700 $21.00
Whether a toy is a "puzzle toy" with a specific way of using it, or an "open-ended toy" such as blocks and dolls, the child wants to know the procedures connected with it. We can show her where the toy is kept when it is not in use, the way of carrying it, and the basic possibilities for its use.

The most important result for both is that the child combine her mental faculties with the work of the hands, enjoy the experience of focusing and concentrating, and find joy in the activity.

COOPERATIVE GAMES
Many social and educational values will prepare a child for later life. Instead of teaching children how to work together, to help each other, to consider the good of the other person or the group as well as oneself, they often foster only competition and winning. This is a pernicious habit.

In environments where children

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SOUND TUBES
For matching intensities of sound, these six pairs of sound tubes are each filled with sand, and pebbles of different size which create a variety of sound, from soft to loud, when shaken next to the ear. Start with just three pair, and when they are matched or paired by sound, show the child how to check her work by looking at the bottom. You will need to label the bottom with a dot of color for the control of error. The wooden tubes are 3.5" tall, two matching sets of 6 tubes, one with red tops and the other with blue tops.

(*) DT091 $36.00

TEMPERATURE BOTTLES
Children love to match temperature bottles. In London we filled them every morning with cold, tepid, warm, and hot water, then nestled them into little special homemade crocheted "socks" which kept the temperature stable for the whole morning.

If you mark the pairs on the bottom—i.e. matching colored dots on the bottom of the hot bottles, etc., the child can check his own work. The bottles are 4.25" tall and 1.25" in diameter, silver colored metal with a black plastic screw-on lid. A set of eight bottles.

DT41 $16.00

SOUNDTRACKS
A classic game to refine the listening skills while have a fun game of lotto, soundtracks contains a tape of familiar and interesting sounds such as a bee, lightning, the click of a camera, splashing water, a car, a frog, the sound of a potato chip being eaten, ocean waves, laughing, and a piano. Contains 4 lotto cards, a cassette tape, and game pieces.

DT060 $15.00

SWEDISH ANGEL CHIMES
A charming, delicate, musical sound to focus a child's listening, and watching as the angels turn with the rising heat of the candles. These chimes are known in different countries, as Los Angelitos, Carillon des Anges, and Anglaspel.

We almost never use it without someone wanting to experiment! see how fast the wheel goes with one - two - three or four candles burning, or with tiny birthday candles. What a wonderful memory this makes, watching and listening, with the lights out. Brass, about ten inches tall, from Sweden. The chimes come with 4 candles.

DT375 Chimes & 4 candles $12.75
DT38 Box of 20 cards $4.50

ADVENTURES OF HARLEY
A cooperative game about a dog. Harley likes to race around the farm gathering his "favorite things," an old shoe, socks, etc. The object of the game is for the players to help him bring home many pairs of favorite things which he has hidden before the paths to home get blocked—by raccoons, a bear, a porcupine or skunk, or the thorny briar paths. The dog powers that help are bark and sniff.

Contents: Game board, game pieces. For 3-10+ players, ages 5 and up.

(*) DT097 $16.50

FUNNY FACE
A cooperative game. Although most people enjoy playing all of these cooperative games, this one is perhaps the adult favorite. It contains command cards with actions for the players to read and mime as they help each other get ready for the "party." It is a hilarious introduction to drama. Note: This game is also a very good verb-discovery game. Game board, game pieces. For 3-10+ players, ages 3+

DT29 $16.50
work and play independently and cooperatively, they learn the most valuable kind of socialization—helping each other. In the home, or in the classroom, cooperative games helps to lay this groundwork. In other games we find that competitive play often stifles unity. Most competitive games cause players to feel isolated or left out. The action is secretive and the results can be hurt feelings or arguments. In cooperative games, children and adults feel good about each other because they enjoy sharing, helping each other, and making joint decisions. In short, the challenge shifts from defeating each other to helping each other.

After a group of children or a family learns to play cooperative games, it becomes easy to change the rules of any other game to make it less competitive. We consider this real ‘socialization’ and preparation for positive interaction throughout life.

**MAX**
A cooperative game. Parents delight in the cooperative way children are called upon to use logic in getting the little creatures home and safe from the cat, and in getting the cat "Max" fed.

Game board, game pieces. For 2-8 players, ages 4+.

**MAX**

**SLEEPING GRUMP**
A cooperative game. The grump has taken all of the Village Treasures. Just as in the story of Jack in the Bean Stalk, we climb while he sleeps to try to get them back—working together. A favorite for many years. Game board, game pieces. For 2-4+ players, ages 4+.

**SLEEPING GRUMP**

**SNOWSTORM**
A cooperative game. A winter storm hits a city. Granny & grandpa, uncle & aunt, mom & dad, and our best friend's family have things to do, places to go, errands to run. The goal is to help everyone finish them before the storm hits. Skills of communication, decision-making, and creative thinking are nurtured. For 1-12 players, age 4+. 12" Game board, rules, game pieces.

**SNOWSTORM**

**HARVEST TIME**
A cooperative game. First each player plants a garden by placing little game pieces on the vegetable pictures. Then they take turns rolling the die to "harvest" the crop. A white roll brings a piece of winter and the purpose of the game is for everyone to get their crops in before winter comes. This only happens when the players help each other!

This was the first cooperative game we ever played and it gave me chills— it felt so good to be playing a game for the good of all instead of being in competition. 12" square board and game pieces. Ages 3+, 1-4 players.

**HARVEST TIME**

**HOME BUILDERS**
Home Builders is a cooperative game about building a house. The homes are from different cultures, past and present. Natural disasters can strike and wreck what is being built. The game nurtures discussion, planning, and memory skills. It is a very good game to play when the child knows someone who is building a house.

Contents: 12" x 12" board, diecut homes, game cards. Age 5+

**HOME BUILDERS**

**A BEAUTIFUL PLACE**
A Beautiful Place is a cooperative ecology game for young children. Planet earth can be a beautiful place that is shared by all. In this game, players work together, not against each other, to restore the beauty of Earth. Discussion, team work, and a bit of luck make for an exciting game—the child learning about ecology as he plays.

Contents: 12" x 12" board, die, game pieces, pollution clouds, good deeds cards. Age 5+

**A BEAUTIFUL PLACE**

**TOYS & GAMES**
Blocks have been a favorite of children the world over forever. They can be made from simple stones, clay bricks, pieces of tree branches, or polished hardwoods. The attraction is that the imagination of the child is set free to create relationships between these physical objects.

Many mathematical and geometric relationships and architectural concepts are discovered, and physics principles are discovered as the structure gets too tall or too heavy. The child can also work out personal problems by playacting with blocks, animal models and little people. In our experience, next to doing real family work, playing with blocks has been the greatest aid to developing concentration.

Kapla!

While constructing a castle in the middle of France, the architect Tom van der Bruggen invented "kapla," a child's building block set for creating many types of structures. This single module can create an unlimited number of structures: bridges, walls, domes, houses, roofs and figures. It helps to develop the child’s manipulative skills, sense of balance, symmetry and beauty, concentration and creative spirit. Kapla is manufactured in France where marathon Kapla building events take place each year.

Unlike traditional blocks each Kapla block or plank is long and thin; it is perfectly balanced between two ideas—building and sculpting. The set contains 200 wooden planks (4.75" x 1", .25"), and a basic techniques book with 40 photos.

$59.95

BLOCK STORAGE

These two block storage units help the child with the sense of order which is prominent at this age. Both units are caster mounted and can easily be moved from place to place by the child. The block shelf enables the child to sort blocks by size and shape, and can have many other uses in the home or classroom. The block cart is 24" wide x 15" deep x 16.5" tall. The block shelf is 24" wide x 15" deep x 35" tall. Both are made of high quality birch plywood with long-lasting finish and well-sanded edges.

(*) DT358 Block Shelf $207.50
(*) DT045 Block Cart $90.75

TINY WOODEN FAMILY

Finally we have found an affordable set of tiny figures to represent people in a child’s creative play with blocks. Maple hardwood, 1" - 2.5" in height, they resemble a man, woman, boy and girl, and can be decorated or used as they are. A set of four.

DT185 Set/4 $3.50
(*) DT1855 Set/8 $6.00

BLOCKS

Blocks are probably the most important creative toys for young children. Through block play a child learns about physics—the relationship between weight, balance, and stability. She practices physical coordination and eye-hand control, and learns about geometric plane and solid forms. As far as planning, focus, and concentration, there has never been a toy in our house that has engaged a child for longer periods of time in constructive activity. Combined with the use of little human figures and animal models, blocks are extremely good for the imagination and the processing of everyday events and emotions.

These highest-quality blocks are made of kiln-dried Northern Hard Maple (20% stronger than Soft Maple). Each block is finely sanded, all edges beveled and corners safely rounded. "They are based on the traditional unit of 2.75" x 2.75" x 1.25."

Blocks are shipped directly from the Minnesota woods to you and can take up a month to receive.

DT259 Individual Set (45 pieces, 14 shapes, 16 pounds) $86.75
DT264 Starter Set (86 pieces, 14 shapes, 50 pounds) $183.50
(*) DT265 Intermediate Set (170 pieces, 21 shapes, 87 pounds) $390.75
(*) DT266 Junior Set (220 pieces, 21 shapes, 120 pounds) $544.25
(*) DT267 Classroom Set (340 pieces, 29 shapes, 197 pounds) $815.75

(*) = new item

USA Toll Free ORDER Number 888.880.9235
**AGE 3-6**

**BLOCKS & PUZZLES**

**PUZZLES**

Puzzles provide visual discrimination practice as the child figures out exactly how the elements fit together visually, and eye-hand control as the pieces are fitted together. They teach the child that work/play is not just open-ended but can have a beautiful and logical structure. They more easily give practice in the beginning and ending of an activity and the satisfaction of completion. The progression of puzzles is first 1, 2, or 3 piece knobbed puzzles (found in Joyful child, Michael Olaf's Essential Montessori for Birth to Three), then multiple-piece knobbed puzzles, simple jigsaw puzzles in frames with gradually increasing numbers of pieces, then cube puzzles and regular cardboard jigsaw puzzles.

Just as a child is eager to know the exact techniques for using a kitchen or woodworking tool, a gardening tool, or the technique of playing a musical instrument, she wants to know the exact ways to use "puzzle toys." We would be doing a child a disservice if we allowed her to use anything—blocks, a violin 

**TOWER of TEN**

Building with blocks is extremely creative and adding a variety of different elements enhances this work. In this set of ten fine maple hardwood blocks the smallest size is a 1 centimeter cube and the largest is a 10 centimeter cube. It is one of a series of puzzles used to give children practice in sensorial discrimination (in this case of size and weight), practice in movement, eye-hand control, following logical steps in an activity, and concentration. A set of ten cubes.

**THINK AND MATCH PUZZLES**

Here is a set of twenty simple 2-piece puzzles which inspire children to use logic—paint goes with paintbrush, dustpan with broom, pencils with pencil sharpener, feet with socks, etc. Only the correct pieces will fit together so the "control of error" is in the material. Aside from a simple puzzle they can be used as a concentration game with two or more children. Place all pieces upside down and take turns turning over two pieces at a time—trying to remember where the matching pairs are. Each two piece puzzle is 5.75" x 2.5".

**ARCOBALENO**

Arcobaleno is a puzzle and a construction toy rolled into one. Children can assemble the arches to construct a circular puzzle and can stretch their imaginations to create bridges, tunnels, bowls, domes, towers, corrals, spiral houses, and fascinating sculptural forms. The beautiful wooden forms of natural wood, and bright rainbow colors, are made in Vermont from the finest maple and birch hardwood to last years. Every piece is sanded and finished for beauty and pleasure in handling. *Arcobaleno* is Spanish for *rainbow*.

This is more often found in museum stores than toy stores. Included are twelve arches in six different colors and sizes, and a hardwood 9.5" tray.

**WOODEN MAGNET PUZZLES**

A revolutionary idea in puzzles which combines exploration in magnetic force, eye-hand coordination, and visual discrimination—and it is fun and challenging. Each puzzle has ten puzzle pieces, each with a piece of metal attached. There is a wooden-cord-magnet stick, an insect net or tow truck, which works like a fishing pole—the child lowering the magnet and drawing out the puzzle piece. She can replace the puzzle piece carefully in the same way, or by hand. 11.5" x 8.5." full color.

**STUDIO TOY SHOP**

- **DT19 Magnetic Bug Puzzle** $10.50
- **DT20 Magnetic Vehicle Puzzle** $10.50
- (*) **DT22 Magnetic Sealife Puzzle** $10.50

- **DT205** $45.00

**CHILD of the WORLD, Michael Olaf's Essential Montessori for ages 3-12+, 2000-2001**

(*) = new item
bow, a hand mixer—as a hammer, for example. This does not stifle creativity, but facilitates it!

Playing with open-ended toys, such as dolls, blocks, art materials, and so forth, is made infinitely richer by the child’s knowledge of exact techniques in handling any toys or materials.

Through the use of all good materials the child learns how to think, to concentrate, to complete a train of thought and a cycle of activity, and to solve problems. She learns to bring the use of her body and especially her hands under the control of her will, to be self-disciplined. This is the foundation for the creativity of a professional artist or composer, and for the creativity of a child at any age.

AN INTRODUCTION TO LATER ACADEMIC STUDIES
In the following pages you will find ideas for introducing the child to the world. We do not believe in pushing a child, but we believe strongly in providing an environment rich in all areas of learning so that the child can choose, from his own intuition, what he is ready to learn.

WOODEN, 24-PIECE JIGSAW FRAME PUZZLES
This is the first time that we have ever seen framed, wooden jigsaw puzzles of such beauty for young children. Large-piece jigsaw puzzles provide an important step between knobbed puzzles and regular puzzles, further developing visual discrimination, eye-hand coordination, decision-making, and critical thinking skills. The puzzles can be assembled inside the wooden frame, and eventually outside the frame 12" x 16." Age 3+.

(*) DT170 Zoo Jigsaw  $10.50
(*) DT172 Transportation Jigsaw  $10.50

JIGSAW PUZZLES IN A BOX
Each box contains four 12-piece wooden jigsaw puzzles which fit in the four separate sections of the box. Each of the pieces is coded on the back so the child can, at first, use this as a sorting exercise, and learn how to carefully close the sliding lid.

There are three subjects, construction vehicles, animal mothers and their babies, and vehicles (fire engine, airplane, school bus, and train engine). The pictures are brightly colored and realistic, and laminated on to the puzzle pieces, the pieces are very finely and closely cut. The child should be shown how to carefully take apart the puzzle pieces. The box is 7.5" x 5.5" x 2.5".

DT239 Building Machines, Set/4  $10.50
DT241 Mother/Baby Animals, Set/4  $10.50
DT244 Vehicles, Set/4  $10.50

48-PIECE JIGSAW FRAME PUZZLES
Each of these puzzles has 48 wooden jigsaw pieces, which fit onto a wooden frame. This is the final step in the transition from easy to advanced jigsaw puzzles. The pictures are in full color, and laminated onto the wood before the jigsaw pieces are cut out. These puzzles can be put together at first in the frame and eventually outside of the frame—a step on the way to non-framed puzzles. The first puzzle shows a construction scene with five different vehicles, and the dinosaur puzzle shows a prehistoric scene with 13 prehistoric animals. The puzzles are 15.5" x 11.5".

DT680 48-Piece Jigsaw - Construction  $11.00
DT681 48-Piece Jigsaw - Dinosaurs  $11.00
to learn. Young children show an amazing interest in a wide range of subjects.

A rich environment creates interests and extends the child’s experience, widening her grasp of such things as music, art, history, geography, science, language, and math. Observations, over the years, of the child’s built-in curiosity and interest in all these areas of study and accomplishment, have taught us to focus on the preparation of the early environment and allow the child to choose and to teach herself. The adult’s challenge is to be sure that the environment offers all of the key experiences necessary for the laying of this foundation.

Rather than relying on verbal lessons, TV, or videos (or other examples of passive learning) because the subject is academic, we rely on the same abilities developed in the areas of practical life and good toys.

We create an environment rich in experiments, games, materials, and books which the child can select as the interest arises, providing experiences of hand and mind working together for an intelligent purpose.

**ANIMAL FLOOR PUZZLES**

These floor puzzles are much thicker than other floor puzzles we have seen, and the artwork is brightly colored and lovely. Assembling these puzzles involves quite a bit of large muscle activity which is good for children. As the children handle the pieces longer in this work, they have time to look closely at the subject matter and become more interested in the animals of today and yesterday. The assembled size of the floor puzzles is 2 feet by 3 feet.

- (*) DT730 24-piece Farm Floor Puzzle $10.50
- (*) DT731 24-piece Endangered Species Floor Puzzle $10.50
- (*) DT732 48-piece Dinosaur Floor Puzzle $10.50
- (*) DT733 48-piece Rain Forest Floor Puzzle $10.50
- (*) DT734 48-piece Underwater Floor Puzzle $10.50

**CUBES EN BOIS**

CUBES IN A BOX

We found these beautiful traditional cubes en bois or wooden cube puzzles made in Switzerland in a little Alpine-looking community in the Rocky Mountains. Each set of wooden painted cubes come in a pinewood box with a sliding plexiglass lid, and with directions.

The animal cube puzzle comes in a rectangular wooden box, 5” x 3.75” x 1.75”, and contains 6 cubes which can be put together to create six different animals. There are pictures of a dog, duck, owl, parrot, fish, and a cat are silkscreened onto a plain wooden background.

With the mosaic puzzle a child can create an endless variety of geometric designs, in and outside of the box. The colors are blue, yellow, red, and green. The wooden box is 5” x 5” x 1.5.”

- DT476 Swiss Animal Puzzle $36.50
- DT496 Swiss Mosaic Puzzle $39.50
It is not enough for the teacher to restrict herself to loving and understanding the child; she must first love and understand the universe.

—Maria Montessori

Interest in and love for the study of astronomy, earth, ecology, physics, and chemistry can all begin now when the child is the most interested in new experiences, when she literally absorbs everything in the environment.

The first lessons about Earth come from nature—experiences of the sun and wind, playing in sand and water and mud, seeing the sun rise and set, watching the stars at night, visiting the seashore, and from the child’s own collections of rocks and minerals.

EARTH/PHYSICS CURRICULUM FOR THE 3-6 CLASS

This is a list of appropriate materials and books, and directions for simple geography and physics activities appropriate for age 3-6. See page 97 for details.

GB70 $5.00

MY PLACE IN SPACE

What a great first personal geography book. A bus driver asks two children if they know their address, and they respond, beginning with 12 Main Street, Gumbridge, Australia, and continuing through the Orion Arm, the Milky Way Galaxy and the Virgo Supercluster, to the Universe. The collaboration of scientists and illustrators gives pleasure and inspires an interest in astronomy. Softcover, 8" x 11," color, 30 pages.

DE46 $6.95

THE UNIVERSE

It used to be quite enough to introduce the child to the solar system, but science has progressed far beyond this. Today the Milky Way, galaxies, the universe, and even white dwarfs, are common vocabulary of everyone. This book is amazing in the simple and clear way that these concepts, as well as the sun, moon, and planets, are presented to the young child. A brief history of the exploration of space in the 20th century is included. As in all of the First Discovery series of books, there are clear acetate pages which make even exploring the book itself interesting. Hardcover, 6.5" x 7, color, 36 pages.

DE758 $12.95

SOLAR SYSTEM POSTER

A decoration for a child’s room or the classroom, which reinforces what he is learning about the solar system. It is very simple and attractive, 22 x 28 inches, in full color. Nine planets are shown, in relative size, on a black background. The distance from the sun of each is given.

DE38 $7.00
**AGE 3-6**

**EARTH**

**Motor-Sensorial Experiences**

We do not give long verbal explanations since the child is at the motor sensorial period of life. Not until the age of six or seven when the imagination reaches beyond the limits of the senses, is the child interested in explanations over hands-on experiences.

At this age we give what are called *sensorial keys*—rocks, globes, puzzle maps, and land forms, pictures of the sun, moon, planets, and a few constellations and cloud formations (and only the most simple commentary) to go along with experience with these materials.

It is not until the age of six and beyond, when the child has a different kind of mental approach to learning, which is centered around the imagination, that we give explanations and details about subjects which must be studied with the imagination, such as planets, and the inside of the earth, and so forth.

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**Glow in the Dark Constellations**

Imagine a child sitting in a dark closet studying the constellations from this book—and then finding them in the night sky. Inside this handy beginner's guide there are glow-in-the-dark illustrations of major constellations, step-by-step directions for finding more than 30 stars and star groups, brief retellings of the legends behind the names of the constellations, and eight simple glowing sky maps. Hardcover, 8" x 10," color, 28 pages.

**WOODEN WORLD PUZZLE MAP**

This new world puzzle map has several elements that make it a good addition to the home or classroom. It is a jigsaw puzzle which requires the child to look at the shapes of the puzzle pieces in a new way.

There is a compass printed on the puzzle which shows the child that north is at the top. We recommend using a real compass as well so the child works the puzzle with the top facing true north. Under the puzzle pieces there is an outline of the world to act as a guide in the beginning. The puzzle can be worked inside the frame in the beginning, using this guide, and eventually outside the frame without it. Additionally there is an illustration of each of the continents at the edge of the puzzle, and names of many of the countries underneath the puzzle pieces.

Best of all is the price. 18.5" x 11.5," wood, color.

**FLOOR GLOBE**

To the delight of our children, and not-so-tall visitors, we have used a globe like this floor model for many years in our home. It is easy to place anywhere, on the floor or next to a desk or table. Its height makes it very easy for very young children to look at, and it turns so that it can be seen from any angle.

We recommend this globe, with each country a different color, for constant use in the home—adults and older children can help even the youngest child find any geographical element which comes up in conversation, nursery rhymes, stories, the news, letters from friends, songs. Look up oceans, the equator, mountains, and rivers, as well as continents, countries and cities. In this way geography becomes fun at an early age, and more interesting when studied in school later. The 12" globe is painted in muted, attractive colors. Height 31."

**CHILD of the WORLD, Michael Olaf's Essential Montessori for ages 3-12+, 2000-2001**

(*) = new item
THE SOLAR SYSTEM
Because the most logical way to present information is from the general to the specific, we give the child at this age a sensorial experience of the solar system with simple mobiles and puzzles, then of the earth with globes, puzzle maps, pictures and books. Even in infant communities we find solar mobiles and rock collections.

GLOBES AND PUZZLE MAPS
A globe is probably one of the most important pieces of material to have in the home. The past and present meet when we look for countries where plants or literature originates (the tulips from the mountains of Asia by way of Holland, the Bible from the Middle East, for example). It can be referred to in a moment when friends send a postcard during a trips, or when different countries are in the news. When we eat rice with chopsticks, or tacos, or hear Irish music on the radio, we can show the child where they came from.

Puzzle maps give practice in recognizing the shapes of continents, and oceans. They combine the child's need for movement and shape recognition with developing awareness of the earth.

COMPASSES
Children love to know the directions in their home and classroom, and also the direction they are walking, in the city and in the countryside. We recommend using a compass every time a child learns a new puzzle map—placing puzzle maps with the top facing north—to prepare in a very simple way for later use of maps. It is also useful for rock hunting expeditions or any nature hike. In the simple pin compass the direction pointer rests on a pin in the center of the compass. In the liquid compass it also floats, giving a smoother operation. This compass also comes with a protective cover and glow-in-the-dark letters and numbers.

Both compasses have a loop at the top and can be worn during a walk. 2" in diameter.
DE546 Pin Compass $1.75
DE765 Liquid Compass, with cover $5.50

LAND FORM AND CONTINENT CARDS
This set of vocabulary cards contains all of the first cards used in geography study:
(1) Eight labeled illustrations and eight definitions of the first four pairs of land and water forms taught in 3-6 classes— island/lake, cape/bay, isthmus/strait, peninsula/gulf. Each land or water form in enclosed in a circle to inspire the child to make his own land and water forms in the small pie pans below.
(2) A labeled picture of each of six of the continents—Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Australia, and Europe.
(3) A card with the names of these continents to be cut into six small label of each continent.
The 4" x 5.5" cards are printed in black on white cardstock. If you want to make three part cards, please order two sets.
DE636 $7.00

LAND FORM PANS AND CLAY
The best way to learn about water and land forms (such as island and lake) is to make them with clay in small metal pans. First the island in one pan and the lake in another, showing how they are complements of each other. After one child makes these and leaves them on the shelf another can change them, seeing that islands and lakes come in many different shapes. These two easily turn into cape and bay, then peninsula and gulf, and then isthmus and strait.

Land form cards and definitions and geography book will really make sense to a child who has had this experience. For the classroom, we recommend a set of eight of the nonstick pans (5" x 1.25") and 2 pounds of the pastel green Plastalina clay.
DE710 Pans, Set/8 $16.00
DE726 Green Plastalina, 1 pound $3.50
LAND FORMS
Children love to dig and pile sand—forming islands, lakes, peninsulas, capes, and other land and water forms, at the beach, out of sand or mud. In class they form clay land and water forms in small pie pans. They enjoy knowing the names and pouring water and maybe floating little homemade walnut-shell boats on the water.

ECOLOGY
This is not the age for focusing on all of the problems which are besetting Earth. Children at this age naturally feel a oneness with all of creation and it can cause pain or a shutting-down to tell them of problems too early. Instead we focus on their love—of beauty, and of caring for objects and of knowledge and language. We give them the sensorial experiences of rocks, land forms, oceans, clouds, stars, lakes, and the visual and tactile possibilities to work with them by means of puzzle maps. And then we give the names. All of this experience and knowledge leads to a natural concern and responsibility at a later age because children "love what they know."

SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS
The earth was formed by principles inherent in simple physics and chemistry...
AGE 3-6 EARTH

experiments. We give these experiments to children now in a motor-sensorial way. This is not the time for a lot of words and explanations. Instead we place in the environment simple science materials for the child to play/work with as much as she desires, in that way absorbing the basic principles which will lead to later interest and study of earth sciences. Children at this age love working with water, magnets, batteries, candles, and other real physics materials, each a key to a basic physical law.

One experiment usually found in 3-6 classrooms is called simply "sink and float." For this experiment, we have a tray containing a box of objects, a vinyl mat or small towel to work on, a clear glass bowl, a pitcher for bringing water to fill the bowl, a bucket for taking the water to the sink when the work is finished, and a small cloth for drying everything when the experiment is finished. We show the child how to carefully place one object into the water, and to observe if it sinks or floats. We make one group, on one side of the bowl of those objects which sink and another, on the other side, objects which float.

We do not talk or explain this phenomenon from an adult point of view, we give no labels or language, but let the child ponder, and repeat the experiment.

ROCKS AND MINERALS STICKER BOOK
We think that parents and teachers alike will find this book a great learning aid for the budding rock collector.

There are seventy-six full color, clear illustrations of individual rocks and minerals. Each can be peeled off the sticker page and attached to the correct definition spot.

Next to the place to put the sticker is (1) the name of the rock or mineral, (2) a definition or description, and (3) a place to write the date and place where an original specimen was found.

For the classroom these will make very easy-to-use materials for creating matching or 3-part reading cards of rocks and minerals. The book is 7.5" x 10.5," color, an Usborne Spotter's Guide from England.

DE696 $4.95

ROCK COLLECTING
Any child interested in collecting rocks will be thrilled to find out that there is a book written about children doing just that! This book explains simple and more challenging concepts and is used as a reading book for older children.

Softcover, 8.5" x 7", color, 28 pages.

DE250 $4.95

FEEL THE WIND
Along with the force of water, wind is one of nature's principle carvers of rock, and is studied in the 6-12 class. This is a first picture book giving important historical and geographical information about the work of the wind in a simple way, good preparation for the elementary class and further science studies.

There are directions for a child/adult made weather vane which will awaken curiosity.

Softcover, 7.5" x 8.5," color, 32 pages.

DE736 $11.00

STAND MAGNIFIER
This is a small, child-size version of a magnifying glass often used by scientists and artists. It enables one to look back and forth at a specimen as it is compared with a sample in a book, or as it is being drawn on paper. It can be used in all kinds of scientific exploration of specimens from the pond, or rocks and minerals. The double hinged, wing nut fastened glass provides variety in setting up the distance from the specimen for long-term viewing or drawing.

It is a 2" diameter optically ground and polished glass lens with chrome plated brass rim and ball joints. The cast iron base is horseshoe shaped with a black crackle finish. The base is 2" x 2".

DE750 $10.50

TURTLE MAGNIFIER
This charming turtle magnifier is among our most popular items. What fun to explore the details of anything with a turtle. It is made in Asia of solid brass and glass. The child can polish it, use it as a magnifier, and as an artifact from Asia. It is a favorite birthday gift for children or adults, and we know that several adults have ordered one for their desk—as a conversation piece and to help read fine print. 4 inches long.

DE736 $11.00
whenever she is interested. It is not uncommon for the child to carry out the activity, carefully dry everything, repeat and repeat these steps, as a deep and private understanding of the physics principle grows in her. It is only after the child has had some experience that we introduce the terms "sink" and "float" if the child does not know them yet.

**LESSONS**

Although videos and television have their place, they are not the best way to learn at this age. Imagine the difference between standing on a hill, with the wind in your face, watching the sun go down at the end of the day—and watching a sunset on a TV screen. Young children are learning with all of their senses, and experiences that are multi-sensorial stay with them for a lifetime.

Successful lessons consist in a quiet demonstration of a piece of material—a puzzle, an experiment, which can be carried out by the child at will as many times as there is interest. Modern brain research shows that young children use the visual and auditory parts of the brain at different times. Demonstrating and explaining an activity at the same time interrupts the ability to concentrate and focus. Dr. Montessori did not know of this brain research, but she observed

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**WEATHER WORDS**

A first picture/reference book which gives the child the language and simple explanations for everyday experiences, and makes her more interested in knowing about weather. This is important basic information for later studies in the areas of geography and ecology.

Even many adults will learn something, and become more aware of the changing weather, because of these clear pictures and definitions, such as air pressure, cirrocumulus, air mass, front, etc. Softcover, 6" x 10", color, 30 pages.

**WEATHER STICK**

We first bought this rustic weather predictor from the backwoods of New England, at a garden shop as a joke, certain that it wouldn't work—but it does! Simply nail the 16" stick to a tree or building. When the stick bends up, fair weather (dry weather) is on its way. Children love this magic.

**MAGNETS**

Magnets are endlessly fascinating to children, and there are several different magnet activities in the 3-6 physics curriculum. Here is a good selection of different sized, good-quality magnets, a 1" piece of lodestone (magnetic rock), and a vial of iron filings, for these and other experiments.

The Classroom Set: a 3-inch light metal English horseshoe magnet, a 2-inch heavy English horseshoe magnet, a set of five 1-inch heavy English horseshoe magnets in a plastic case, one piece of lodestone, and a 2" vial of iron filings. Suggestions for use can be found in The Earth/Physics Curriculum, on page 4.

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**SCIENCE POSTERS**

- **SEASONS, CLOUDS, WEATHER**

Several concepts are introduced and simply illustrated in these large, laminated posters. These will make an impression, introduce some new concepts and vocabulary, make him more observant of the outside world in everyday life, and prepare for later studies.

The Seasons poster shows the condition of a tree at the different seasons, and the relationship of the earth to the sun during the seasons.

The Clouds poster illustrates the water cycle, the four simplest cloud formations, and the weather conditions caused by clouds.

The Weather poster shows several more cloud types, the seasons and four pictures of different weather in four parts of the world. 20.5" x 30," full color, laminated. A set of three posters.

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**WHAT MAKES A MAGNET?**

A first magnet picture book that inspires a child to sort objects with a magnet, to explore, and to make a simple magnet and a simple compass from a needle! Full of interesting facts about the history and science of magnets. Softcover, 10" x 8", color, 32 pages.
over and over the difference between the attention of a child who is being shown a lesson silently, and one who was being asked to listen and watch at the same time.

**ART AND LANGUAGE**
One of the most important parts of learning is being able to express an interest through art, music, language, or in some other tangible way.

Children love to create original art connected to puzzle maps, and the easiest time to learn the names of colors, shapes, continents, oceans, rivers, etc. is before age six, when a child wants to handle everything and learn what everything in his environment is called.

Many of us have been astounded at the young child's ability to learn the names of continents, countries, flags, land forms, kinds of dinosaurs, kinds of dogs, etc. This is not surprising as the child under the age of six is in the strongest "sensitive period" for learning language he will ever experience. This child will learn thousands of words if he has a sensorial experience for them.

_I live in heaven. My home is a sphere that turns around the sun. It is called Earth._
—Dr. Maria Montessori

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**SWITCH ON, SWITCH OFF**

This is a perfect book to go with the electric circuit. You flip a switch and a light goes on, you flip it again and the light goes off. It seems like magic, but really it is electricity. Read and find out just what electricity is, how it is used, and how it is made. A lot of advanced information is given, but in a clear and simple way that children can relate to. It gives directions for an experiment, generating electricity with a magnet, a compass, and a piece of wire.

This beginning physics book does not talk down to the young children, and is informative for the older child. It can be also a beginning reading book. Softcover, 8.5" x 7.0", color, 32 pages.

DE761 $4.95

**THE LITTLE BOOK OF HAND SHADOWS**

The first edition of this tiny book of "the first moving pictures," or hand shadows, was printed in 1927. Introduce a new generation to the fun of shadow making—a moose, a kangaroo, a woodpecker, and many other members of the animal kingdom as well as a cast of Mother Goose characters.

All you need is a light source, a piece of white cardboard in a stand, or a wall, and your hands. The original poem for each figure is included. Hardcover, 3" x 3.25," black and white, 77 pages.

DE670 $4.95

**GLASS PRISM**

Here is a two-inch glass prism which will do more than anything to introduce the physics phenomenon of light. In the room of the very young child, simply put it in the window and the rainbow will lead the children to its discovery. For the older child there are experiments in the Sound and Light experiment book. 2" long.

DE686 $5.25

**YOUNG DISCOVERERS ENCYCLOPEDIA OF FACTS AND EXPERIMENTS**

This new book is a compilation of 8 books we have carried in the past: Energy and Power, Batteries Bulbs and Wires, Sound and Light, Solids and Liquids, Weather and Climate, Rivers and Oceans, Maps and Mapping, and Nature in Danger. The many colorful pictures will invite the child to carry out many science experiments. The information will be valuable even into secondary school. Softcover, 8.5" x 9.5," full color, 214 pages.

(*) DE091 $15.95
Solicitous care for living things affords satisfaction to one of the most lively instincts of the child's mind. Nothing is better calculated than this to awaken an attitude of foresight.

—Maria Montessori

An atmosphere of love and respect for plants and animals in the home and classroom is the best foundation for the study of plants and animals. This begins in the home as the child absorbs the family's attitude toward insects, trees, house pets, and other plants and animals.

Lessons that make a deep impression come from first hand experiences of plants and animals; nothing can substitute for walking in the woods and listening to birds, looking for shells on the beach, watching the daily growth of a flower in the garden.

**BIOLOGY CURRICULUM FOR THE 3-6 CLASS**

See page 97 for more information

GB71 $5.00

**FLOWER VASES AND DOILIES**

Flower arranging—in tiny vases placed on real cotton doilies—is found in children's communities of all ages, as a special ritual for children to begin their day by making the environment beautiful.

A child can use cut flowers, often provided by parents, or cut the flowers or leaves from plants in the garden. In the fall or winter ferns, colored leaves, or dried flowers can be used. Any vases can be used, but we look for examples which represent other cultures. These small vases are hand made in Peru, and painted in the traditional designs, in red, brown, white, and black. The shapes of the vases and the designs are different with each shipment. They are about two inches high. The 4" cotton doilies come in a variety of round patterns.

DP04 Peruvian Vases, Set/2 $5.50
DP81 Cotton Doilies, Set/4 $6.00

**PLANT MISTER**

Caring for plants is the introduction to botany for the very young child. She can pick off dead leaves and loosen the soil of a potted plant, dusting sturdy leaves and learning to carefully water and mist a plant. A plant mister of one's own is a welcome gift and children enjoy polishing this and other brass objects providing even more opportunities for meaningful work. This mister comes from India and is 6" tall.

DP06 $7.95

**ELEGANT WATERING CAN**

This simple watering can was used long ago for elegant Victorian conservatories. It is a very sturdy and artistic design, molded of heavy, "important feeling" solid brass. It can be used for the garden or for indoor plants, in the home or school. 7.5" tall. Made in India.

DP79 $22.00

**LONGHandled GARDENING TOOLS**

What fun—working alongside the adults with the real gardening work—or digging at the beach.

These have been used in Sweden for years and are appropriate for children of all ages. They are of the same quality as adult gardening tools but specially sized to be used in the garden by young children. The handles are made of hard wood and painted metal. The garden spade is 27.5" long, the rake 28" long.

DP106 Long Spade $11.50
DP108 Long Rake $11.50

**FRENCH STYLE WATERING CAN**

The best quality garden watering can we have seen, and in the perfect size for the child. Of course it would be from France, a country famous for its gardens. This handmade, galvanized metal replica of a vintage French design is made in India. The child can carry half gallon of water. It is very sturdy and waterproof, with the traditional removable brass nozzle with green trim. The height is 11", width 13.5."

DP779 $20.00

(*) = new items
**NATURE TABLE OR SHELF**
A little table or shelf, in the home or classroom, dedicated to a changing array of beautiful objects from nature, is a delight to children. Some suggestions are a fallen nest, a rock, fossils or shells, leaves, a plant experiment (from the biology curriculum for the 3-6 class).

It is important to keep this area very clean, beautiful, and constantly changing. A little tray with a magnifying glass could be kept on the nature table for closer observation.

In the 3-6 classroom a plastic mat, bucket and sponge, and a small drying towel are kept on a tray under or near the nature table and one of the favorite activities is to carefully clean the table and the items on the table. Lay out a plastic mat and carefully remove everything from the shelf. If there are dry leaves or soil, show the child how to wipe them off the edge of the table and into his hand. Next show him how to dip and wring out the sponge, and to wipe the top of the table and the legs. With a

**THE CARROT SEED**
Since 1947 this charming book has been a favorite of children. Very few words and pictures show the simple story of a little boy waiting for the carrot which he has planted to come up.

Softcover, color, 6" x 8," 24 pages.

DP777 $4.95

**MISS RUMPHIUS**
An all-time favorite about a school teacher who wanted to do something to make the world more beautiful. It took a long time but finally, one day when she was old it came to her! Lupines!

From then on she devoted herself to gathering the seed and spreading the beautiful lupine flower to beautify the world.

Softcover, 10" x 8", beautiful color illustrations, 28 pages.

DP12 $6.00

**LEAF & FLOWER PRESS**
This press can be used for pressing flowers, grasses, ferns, leaves and small plants for making vocabulary cards with real specimens, or art projects.

The press is 7" square, made of fine birch plywood with a charming silkscreened floral pattern on the front. It comes with 14 sheets of blotter paper, 8 corrugated inserts (holding up to 8 layers of specimens at one time) and an instructional pamphlet. Assembling the press by means of the wing nut and bolt fasteners is especially good work for a young child.

DP07 $13.95

**COMPOST! GROWING GARDENS FROM YOUR GARBAGE**
This is a really beautifully decorated book about a day in the life of a young girl and her family—composting. At the end of the story are interesting answers to common questions about composting for the adult. This is a good introduction to an important activity for the whole family or classroom. Softcover, color, 9" x 9", 30 pages

DP180 $8.95

USA Toll Free ORDER Number 888.880.9235

BEST COPY AVAILABLE
drying cloth dry everything. Wipe and dry the plastic mat, then clean the sponge, hang the drying cloth up to dry and replace it with a fresh one. And replace the items on the table, letting the child decide on their arrangement.

Now the child knows how to carry out this activity at any time, independently of an adult's permission.

PLANTS

This gives the child the feeling of really caring for the beautiful objects and not just looking at them.

It is important for a child to spend some time in the outdoors experiencing nature every day—in all kinds of weather and during all seasons. Going for a walk with a young child, if one follows the child's speed and interest, can open our eyes to the world of nature like never before.

Flower arranging is an important part of the ritual of beginning the day in many classrooms and can be done in the home. A selection of interesting tiny vases of different sizes and shapes, from different

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE POSTERS

These laminated wall charts are aids to the child who wants to practice his new vocabulary. The names of common fruits and vegetables are often among the first words learned. The pictures are vivid color photographs on a white background. Dimensions 20.5" x 30." A set of two.

(*) DP033 $10.00

NUTS/SEEDS CARDS

Cracking, serving, eating nuts is a favorite and very healthful activity for a 3-6 year-old. This set of 22 plant drawings and gray-tone photographs represents eleven edible nuts or seeds. The child can match the cards and real nuts. Included: almonds, Brazil nuts, cashews, coconuts, hazelnuts, peanuts, pecans, pistachios, sunflower seeds, and walnuts. The 5" x 3.5 white cards show the nut in its growing stage, and its full-grown stage.

(*) DP088 $13.50

COR\N IS MAIZE

The history of corn couldn't be better presented for children than in this picture book by Aliki. It is scientifically and historically correct and still reads like an interesting story. Softcover, color, 8" x 8.5", 34 pages

DP050 $4.95

BINOCULARS

These excellent and inexpensive children's binoculars enlarge the viewing image to four times with precision optics. Looking through binoculars makes a child aware of many things in the environment otherwise taken for granted, just by the act of focusing—butterflies, birds, clouds, tops of trees, people, on and on. Small, light weight, 4" x 4", makes objects four times larger.

DP36 $6.50

KITCHEN HERBS AND SPICES CARDS

Children can match real kitchen herbs and spices to the lovely drawings on these cards. The illustrations, delicately traced in green and brown, show clearly the parts of: basil, bay leaf, caraway seeds, chives, cinnamon bark, cloves, dill, garlic, ginger, mint, mustard seeds, nutmeg, oregano, parsley, peppers, peppercorns, sage, sesam seeds, thyme, vanilla bean. 4" x 6," on stiff cardboard.

(*) DP082 37 $15.00

(*) = new items
countries is important. Just as with the cleaning of the nature table, a tray can be prepared with all of the items necessary for flower arranging: small vase(s), scissors to cut the flowers, a small pitcher to fill the vases and perhaps a funnel if the tops of the vases are small, and a sponge and drying cloth for cleaning up. Also a selection of handmade cotton doilies makes this ritual very special.

Having these flower arrangements on the kitchen, living room, or classroom tables, even if they consist of only one small flower or fern in a vase, brings the child's attention to the beauty and variety of nature as he goes through the day. Don't be surprised if all the flowers and vases end up on the same table the first time.

Grass, leaves, wildflowers, or cultivated flowers all make ideal art materials when they have been preserved in a flower press. In our home we have often kept previously dried leaves and flowers in a container next to the flower press ready for decorating birthday cards, LAYERED LEAF PUZZLES

These exquisitely made "puzzles" look like pieces of art one might find in an art museum. A lovely block of layered wood, 7" x 7" square and a little over an inch tall, with a painted green leaf in the middle. However, underneath this leaf (push gently through the hole in the bottom to lift it) there is a slightly smaller leaf, then another and another - 8 in all, like a Matreshka doll. The veins are delicately cut out with a saw (Hold them up to the light). Beautiful. For all ages. The two different types show two kinds of veins. Each leaf is delicately painted a different color.

DP020 Maple $16.00
DP021 Oak $16.00

BE A FRIEND TO TREES

An awareness of trees and their relationship to the ecosystem of the whole earth, can be gently introduced at this age. Parents sometimes mistakenly think that because a child is surrounded by trees in the country, or in parks in the city, that she is automatically aware of their beauty and importance. Children are shown in a way that is geared to their interests, the value of trees for small animals, for making furniture, and for creating healthful air.

Softcover, 10" x 8", color, 32 pages.

DP137 $4.95

WHY DO LEAVES CHANGE COLOR?
The common question of how leaves change color in the fall, is explained, and places to see the beautiful fall color are suggested. Good early reader. Softcover, 10" x 8", color, 32 pages.

DP136 $4.95

STETHOSCOPE

Another way to observe and experience nature is by listening. With this stethoscope children can listen to the differences in heartbeats of, for example, a kitten and a human. Show them how to listen to a human swallowing or breathing. A good quality instrument of metal and rubber.

DP37 $9.50

ANIMAL SOUNDTRACKS

Children love listening to the real animal sounds on the cassette and matching each one to the right photograph on the lotto boards. This game from England can be played by one child—just matching the sounds to one or more lotto boards. It can also be played as a lotto game with four people.

Contents: 30 minute cassette, four 8" x 8" colorful lotto boards with photographs of real animals, 40 counters, information on each of the animals.

DP760 $16.00
or including in letters.

If you are planning an outdoor environment for children at home or at school, be sure to include a space for wild specimens. Some of the best biological examples of leaf shapes and attachments, and so forth, can be found on wild plants such as dandelions and thistles.

The young child wants to know exact names of everything. Not just "flower" but "California poppy," and descriptive words such as orange, small, long, rough, and soft. This is a classification that even the beginning botanist can use. Later, after exposure has stimulated an interest and a fondness for plants, we can introduce the botanical names and further classification such as kinds of leaf margins or flower corollas. Exposure to plants and animals initiates many important discussions which a wide vocabulary can enrich and make more satisfying.

Providing garden tools and a small wheelbarrow for the child so that she can

**BUTTERFLY GARDEN**

Every year we order larvae and watch the miracle in our home, releasing the butterflies after two days of feeding them. They always stay around, on a plant near the house, for almost the whole morning. The kit includes a cardboard butterfly "garden" to assemble, clear directions, and a coupon to send for the larvae. The cycle takes only three or four weeks. We cannot send these outside the US.

DP31 $20.00

**LAYERED METAMORPHOSIS PUZZLES**

These wooden puzzles from China are exquisite works of art which will become family heirlooms, or constantly used puzzles in the classroom. Each of the four pieces, fitted on top of the next, shows the stages of metamorphoses, from eggs, or pupa, to frog or butterfly. Hardwood, natural wood frame and delicately painted pieces, 7" square.

DP025 Frog Puzzle $13.00
DP026 Butterfly Puzzle $13.00

**LIFE CYCLE BOOKS**

The life cycles of animals are a basic part of the biology study, because they are a source of endless fascination for children. This series presents the story of the changes throughout lives of animals in a very clear and beautiful way. The simple text is illustrated with color photographs and watercolors of everything connected with life cycles.

We offer one invertebrate (butterfly), four of the five classes of vertebrates (no bird book published), and an extra mammal, Life Cycle - Kangaroo, because marsupial mammals are a special and very interesting example of a life cycle. It is important to bring to the attention of the child that every form of life on earth, plant or animal, has a cycle of life, from birth to death, that is part of the plan.

Softcover, 9" x 8", color, 32 pages.

DP801 Life Cycle - Butterfly $5.95
DP802 Life Cycle - Salmon $5.95
DP803 Life Cycle - Frog $5.95
DP804 Life Cycle - Snake $5.95
DP805 Life Cycle - Whale $5.95
DP806 Life Cycle - Kangaroo $5.95
DP807 Life Cycle Set/6 $34.00
help to carry grass cuttings or anything else which needs to be transported is an excellent way to involve the child with the yard work. Although the adult will often shy away from hard work, the young child will welcome important real work. This is the time to introduce gardening to children. Even one pot, inside or outside, with one plant, is better than nothing when there is no room for a large outside garden.

Wherever the adult is sensitive to the child's natural need for order, there is a place for every tool and the children are shown how to clean and put away the tools, giving a great feeling of satisfaction, independence, completion.

Beautiful pictures of plants and flowers can be hung on the child's wall and you may be surprised at a child's preference for nonfiction books about nature when she has been kept in touch with nature.

**ANIMALS**

Animals are best observed free in nature. Hang a bird feeder just outside

**SMALL ANIMAL MODELS**

These sets of small plastic animal models are especially valuable in imaginative play, the child building ecological environments and creating stories. They are also used for vocabulary practice, learning the names of animals, for matching pairs of animals, and later matching them to pictures. They are not recommended for the very young, but can be used in the home and school where they add a special interest when a child is playing with blocks.

Each shipment of sets vary slightly but in each you will find between 20-28 animals, sometimes as many as 12 identical pairs, and small plastic rocks, plants or fences. The models are between 1.5" and 2.5" in length, packed in a plastic tube storage container. Made in China.

(*) DP203 Butterfly Collection $8.00
(*) DP205 Farm Animal Collection $8.00
(*) DP207 Wild Animal Collection $8.00
(*) DP209 Sea Creature Collection $8.00
(*) DP211 Insect Collection $8.00

USA Toll Free ORDER Number 888.880.9235
the window and show the child how to sit quietly so that the birds won't be afraid. Binoculars give the child a feeling of participating in the birds' activities, and allow the child to watch birds from a distance. It is surprising to see how a child can focus and become still when the interest in watching an ant or a bird has been awakened.

If animals visit the classroom, we first prepare for all of the animal's needs ahead of time—comfort, exercise, food, warmth, gentle handling—and have the visit last only as long as the guest is comfortable, the consideration for

SHELL COLLECTION & MATCHING PICTURES

The 21 shells in this collection, some common and some rare, were selected to be used in later animal classification. They come from all over the world in an amazing variety of shapes and textures.

The work or "cosmic task" of the mollusc is to remove the poisonous substance, calcium carbonate, from the seas and use it in the construction of its home—a gift to the mollusc and to the world. As each beautiful shell is built the purity of the ocean is maintained. Older children love to hear this story. We try very hard to purchase shells from people who have used them as a necessary food source.

The shell cards were drawn to match these particular shells, one each of 21 pictures, 4" x 5.5," cardstock.

The 2-part wooden tray in the 3-6 Language section exactly fits the shells and shell cards. SHELL MATCHING Order two sets of the shell collection to make a shell matching exercise for the classroom, using only a few of the pairs at once.

DP325 Shell Collection, Set/21 $17.00
DP34 Shell Cards, Set/21 $6.75
DP33 Shells/Cards Set $23.00

NAUTILUS
A GAME OF SEASHHELLS
From the simple but complete introduction of shells in the shell collection and matching cards, this game takes the older child into a more thorough exploration of shells and their families. These 56 full-color cards can also be used as vocabulary cards.

DP350 $8.00

WHAT LIVES IN A SHELL?
This is the best first shell book we have found. It presents important information in a lovely way geared to the interests of the child. It explains the purpose of the shell (to provide a home and protection), gives the parts of an animal living in a shell, names of several kinds of shells, and so forth.

This is also a good beginning reading book. Softcover, 10" x 8", color, 32 pages.

DP131 $4.95

HIDDEN WORLD BOOKS
In this unique introduction to the hidden world young children can explore depths of the ocean and the soil. They use the "magic" paper flashlight included in the book to find fascinating sea creatures like manta rays, sea urchins, and cat sharks, hidden within the dark ocean scenes. In Under the Ground, in the same way, they follow a rabbit into its home, see an earthworm tunnel through the soil, and discover the other wonders of the world beneath their feet. Hardcover, 6" x 7", color, 36 pages, some black transparent pages for discovery with the "flashlight."

DP222 Under the Ground $12.95
DP224 Under the Sea $12.95
the animal being more important than the satisfaction of our curiosity.

In our home we kept two containers always clean and ready to receive a guest salamander or small garden snake. It takes no time at all to dig up a dandelion or another small plant, and to put it in the terrarium with a sprinkle of water for the animal to hide under for its short visit.

A terrarium can be as elaborate as a ten gallon aquarium with a wire top, or a simple jar. The most important thing to keep in mind is that, even though it may be a short visit, the animal will need air.

One of the lessons I learned to give in my first training course in London was to pick up and hold a cat. Children are delighted to learn the tiny details of caring for animals, and we should not expect them to automatically know how to treat animals without having had careful, hands-on lessons.

These lessons can be practiced ahead of time and presented slowly and carefully. This shows that the adult respects the work and expects the child to be careful and to do his best.

**ATLAS OF ANIMALS**
This beautiful book provides a link between biology and geography. Each page, some brightly painted and transparent, presents four animals from one of the continents—the continent highlighted on a globe in the middle of the page. The short paragraphs of print make this a good reading book. Hardcover, 6" x 7", color, 36 pages.

DP825 $12.95

**QUICK AS A CRICKET**
In this joyful celebration of self awareness, a little boy puts himself in the place of animals—quick as a cricket, slow as a snail, small as an ant, large as a whale, loud as a lion, quiet as a clam, tough as a rhino, gentle as a lamb, and so on. Each page has one picture and one phrase. A great book for poetry, the senses and feelings, imagination, and reading. Softcover, 10" x 10", color, 30 pages.

DP57 $6.99

**ANIMAL FAMILIES CARD GAME**
A male whale is called a bull. A baby cat is a kitten. A group of pigs is a sounder of pigs! In this card game children learn the correct names for the male, the female, the young and the group of several kinds of farm and wild animals. This is a great introduction to research that could go on for a long time. There are thirteen familiar animals illustrated. The game includes fifty-two full-color, illustrated animal cards, and a 16 page booklet. For 2-4 players.

DP46 $8.00

**A NEW COAT FOR ANNA**
In this World War II story, Anna's mother decides that she will trade the few valuables she has left for a coat for Anna, who has outgrown her old one. She trades a fine, gold watch to a farmer for the wool, and Anna and her mother bring treats and visit the sheep every weekend throughout the winter while they are growing the wool for her coat. She trades a lamp to an old woman who will spin the wool for them but it will take her a long time. She tells them "Come back when the cherries are ripe and I will have your yarn." And so on, a tale of beauty and love which a child will follow with delight as each page, and lovely picture, brings Anna's coat closer to reality. It is based on a true story.

Softcover, 8" x 10", color, 32 pages.

DB08 $7.00

**ANIMAL FOOTPRINTS**
Imagine one's surprise upon opening this book to a two-page spread containing a full-size footprint of an Indian Rhinoceros! This will be the most looked at book in the biology section of any classroom until every one has thoroughly digested it. The foot print on this page is of the left rear paw of a lion. And the last footprint in the book is that of the author next to a footprint of a one week old baby. If you haven't shown your children how to do art prints by now this would be a good way to begin.

Along with each footprint, or handprint, there are interesting facts and drawings about the animal's life, and animals from all over the world are represented. Hardcover, 11.5" x 9", color, 47 pages.

DP1196 $12.95

USA Toll Free ORDER Number 888.880.9235
Hatching cocoons in the home or the classroom is a truly magical experience for the child, and there are mail-order larvae available so that this can be done safely at the correct time.

A good way to introduce the amazing phenomenon of life cycles in different animals, such as tadpole to frog, and the difference between placental and other mammals.

Because animals are less accessible to the children than plants, we suggest, after the firsthand experience of a few live animals (for example cats and dogs) more models, pictures, and books about them. We can give them simple picture books, beginning reading books, and even advanced reference books.

Studying humans, for example the hands and senses, the eyes, mouths, legs, and so forth, focuses attention on the similarity and differences between humans and other animals—and discussing the needs for food, water, shelter, warmth, protection, shows that we are all part of the same family of life on earth.

HUMAN BODY READERS

Children love books about themselves and their bodies. The human hands are miracles, and the senses are the basis of a child’s education. These are important lessons for our children.

These books are scientifically correct, and, with charming illustrations and perspectives, bring these concepts alive. They are also excellent nonfiction books.

Softcover, 8.5” x 7”, color, 32 pages.

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<tr>
<td>DP133</td>
<td>My Five Senses</td>
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<td>DP135</td>
<td>My Hands</td>
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FOSSILS TELL OF LONG AGO

This is an early reading book by the British author and illustrator Aliki. It presents a story like explanation of the story of fossils, beginning “Once upon a time a huge fish was swimming around . . .” Simple, colorful drawings of children on a search for fossils explain where fossils came from, how they are formed, why they are buried. It explores dinosaur tracks, coal, a mammoth, amber, and the changing earth. Softcover, 8.5” x 7,” color, 32 pages.

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<tr>
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<td>Fossils</td>
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FOSSIL PAIRS

Age 3-6 is a very sensorial age. It is not the time that we teach about the history of earth, or the evolution of plants and animals, but it is the time when we provide beautiful fossil specimens for the child to handle, to experience the beauty, texture, and color.

This set contains five pairs of fossils. In the process of matching and comparing them the child learns much about each kind. Because fossils are not consistently available, we will select the best at the time you order. They are chosen from trilobite, ammonite, petrified wood, coral, fern, and gastropod (turritella). Information on the fossils, and the correct pronunciation, is included. Ten pieces, five pairs of fossils.

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<td>Fossils, Set/10</td>
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Madame Montessori,

Even as you, out of love for children, are endeavoring to teach children, through your numerous institutions, the best that can be brought out of them, even so, I hope that it will be possible not only for the children of the wealthy and the well-to-do, but for the children of paupers to receive training of this nature. You have very truly remarked that if we are to reach real peace in this world, and if we are to carry on a real war against war, we shall have to begin with children, and if they will grow up in their natural innocence, we won't have to struggle, we won't have to pass fruitless idle resolutions, but we shall go from love to love and peace to peace, until at last all the corners of the world are covered with that peace and love for which, consciously or unconsciously, the whole world is hungering.

- M. K. Gandhi, 1943

Today, from preschool through university, parents and educators have come to cherish diversity—economic, racial, all kinds—to prepare children for living in the real world. Gandhi's desire is coming to pass.

Through individual effort, the internet, and school exchange programs, there is an increasing awareness of the importance of teaching students the value of service. There are schools, and families on all continents who are often in touch with, and learning from, each other.
other. This is an important element in the child's world view, and in developing a concern for people all over the world, and people of all parts of society.

**Teaching Geography**

We are very fortunate in the United States to be living in a melting pot of peoples from all over the world. Even the Native Americans came from somewhere else. This wonderful living lesson in geography teaches us that the only difference between us is when we came to our country and why.

The study of geography and of history revolves around the needs of humans for such basic things as food, housing, a means of transportation, clothing, and the mental and spiritual needs for work, play, and worship. In the early years children are given concrete examples, stories and pictures of people all over the world, in order to build a foundation in geography and history.

The first lessons center around how people have developed a culture because

**CONTINENT ChARTS**

Moving from the general, the overview, to the specific details, we give the child the world in this order (1) globe and all continents, (2) the child's continent, (3) the child's country, (4) the child's state, county, town, (5) continents, countries, and cities from continents other than the child's own.

These seven charts present a topographical view of the great land masses of the world, mountains and lakes clearly visible. On each chart there is a view of the world with the continent blacked out so the child can see where it is on the Earth. There is one paragraph of information. 8.5" x 11," full color. A set of 7: Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Australia, Europe, Antarctica. We recommend putting one at a time up on the wall at school or at home when something important is happening in that continent (a visitor? a trip? a news event?). They are 22.5" x 28.5". Sold only as a set.

**AROUND THE WORLD - CHILDREN**

This is an illustrated mini-picture-encyclopedia of cultures around the world, with many scenes of everyday life that attract the child and inspire curiosity. It begins with a map of the world, and then a map of the first continent—Asia—and then the individual topics, each presented in a 2-page spread. The topics in Asia, for example, include: a Middle Eastern oasis, an Indian town, a rice paddy, a Japanese family, fishing with a sea gull in China, etc. Hardcover, 7" x 8," full color, 92 pages.

(*) $9.95

**THE VIKING CHILDREN'S ATLAS**

This unique atlas takes a child from her house and neighborhood, to a map of a town, then a state, then a country, a continent, a planet and the solar system. Aside from this superb introduction, The Viking Children's Atlas is filled with colored pictures of maps and of the countries themselves, with easy to understand descriptions of the chief characteristics of the countries. This is the best first atlas and has inspired many children to make their own maps. Softcover, 8" x 11.5," 46 pages.

DG12 $6.99

**THE STORY OF MONEY**

Why is a tiny sliver of yellow metal worth more than a big loaf of bread, and a little piece of green paper worth more than either? This first history book explores the many forms money has taken around the world, from barter to doubloons to paper money and credit cards. Softcover, 8.5" x 10," color, 46 pages.

DH406 $6.95

**ATLAS OF COUNTRIES**

Just like Atlas of People, this book is a well-used, favorite in the 3-6 class as it links the simple first globes to the features of earth. It begins with a see-through page which shows the two land-water hemispheres of Earth, one on each side. Then it has an illustration of each continent, with pictures of some of the famous sights, constructions, flags from each.

There is interesting information for the child from age six and older about the history of earth. Hardcover, 6" x 7," color, 36 pages.

DG826 $12.95

*(*) = new items
AGE 3-6

People

of the place where they live. How and why are the clothes, houses, food, and transportation of a group of people living north of the arctic circle different from those of a group of people living near the equator? This gives a healthy, non-judgemental, non-ethnocentric, non-nationalistic, basis of exploration of peoples of the world.

The seeds of the study of history are given through experiences, such as ethnic foods and music, and through objects, pictures, and books. We try to include examples that will provide a point of reference in later history studies. Later children will use these impressions taken in during this time of the absorbent mind, the age when they literally become all of the impressions taken in from the environment, to make sense of the history of the world.

Globes, Maps, and Flags

The more easily available a globe and map is to a child, the more often it will be referred to and the more geography will be learned in a very simple and enjoyable way. In providing experiences for the child we move from the general view to the specific—from the whole earth to continents to countries to counties, then towns and neighborhoods.

I remember one day my oldest daughter, then age three and recently having begun attending a Montessori school, was watching me, along with some of her older friends (ages six and eight), pour some beaten eggs into a

Flags

While a child is forming some idea in her mind of a country, France for example, from pictures, puzzle map pieces, postcards, music, etc., the flag is an artifact which can add to the sensorial image of “France.” For the older child it becomes a symbol of people joined together in community—a subject in which she is very interested. Children can learn much history of the world from their studies of flags and how they came to be the way they are. This is a good age to begin this exploration.

Flag Stickers

These sets each contain two each of 112 small, good quality, self-adhesive flag stickers, good for many different projects. One half of the sticker is a 1" x .75" flag and on the other half is the name of the country or a state. All continents are represented.

Small labels can be made with the flag on one side and the name on the other, for the child to try to match to the wooden puzzle maps. Or use them for a child to put on his drawing or painting of continents, countries or states.

We have often made little flags with the stickers wrapped around toothpicks to put on birthday cakes, cheese cubes, and cookies, to lend an international flavor to parties.

DG36 Country Flag Stickers/112 $3.95
DG37 State Flag Stickers/112 $3.95

Flags of the World

"The ultimate pocket flags of the world book." Here are more than 300 national, international, official, and provincial flags from around the world, clearly presented in full color and fully explained. There is detailed information on the historic and symbolic significance and development of every national flag. This little book will remain a valuable reference for children and adults.

Hardcover, 4" x 5.5", color, 238 pages.
DG810 $12.95
One of the children who were with her asked, "What is Africa?" to which Narda replied "It is a continent." The other friend asked her what a continent was and Narda said, with a little bit of exasperation "Come with me." She then got out the globe and sat the older girls down for a very enjoyable lesson on the names of the continents and countries of the world. There is no reason to put off geographical studies until later grades. Children want to have an idea of where they live on a globe of Earth at very young ages.

Since this is the time when children love to do puzzles, and to know the names of everything in the environment, we follow the children's interests by offering puzzles of real value. Puzzle maps have been used in 3-6 classes for many years. Children easily "absorb" and memorize the relative sizes, the shapes, the location of continents and countries of the world in this motor-sensorial time of life. They delight in learning the names of every country and capital, the states, the rivers and mountains. These impressions and names stay with them forever.

We also give national songs, dances, instrumental music, costumes, pictures of state birds, flowers, flags, architecture, inventions, and adults and children carrying out the many aspects of life. We are very careful not to give the impression that any culture is superior in any way to any other. Each culture has its own strengths and weaknesses, its

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**WORLD HISTORY**

We recommend this as a valuable reference book of the history of the whole world for the home and the classroom.

The many small, intriguing color pictures in this book capture a child's interest (and the adult's!) and inspire questions. We know from experience in our own home. The book begins with an archaeological dig, and covers civilizations all over the world from the first settlers of the Stone Age through 1914.

There is a timeline at the end of the book comparing the events of history in nine columns: North America, Central and South America, Europe, Africa, Russia and Asia, the Middle East, India, China and Japan, and the Far East and Pacific—so it is easy to see what was going on, simultaneously, all over the world at any particular time.

Hardcover, 8.5" x 11" color, 195 pages.

DH29 $24.95

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**JOURNEY THROUGH HISTORY (OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION)**

History is so much more interesting when connected to the past through creations in music and art and drama, and then beautiful books with stories told from a child's point of view.

These four books are simple picture and early reading books each presenting a view of a period in the history of western people. In the back of each book is a section of information for the adult so she can answer the child's questions.

The books include: Prehistory to Egypt, The Greek and Roman Eras, The Middle Ages, and The Renaissance. Softcover, 8" x 8", color, 32 pages.

Available only as a set of four books.

DH20 Journey Through History, Set/4 $27.50

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**CHILDHOODS OF GENIUS**

These books are without a doubt among the best first biography books for children we have seen. Each book gives a picture of a child, with idiosyncrasies common to many children, which in each case led to a creative adult recognized by the world as a genius. The pictures are delightful, one large illustration and a few sentences on each page, and are also good as early readers.

There is a subtle message in these books for us adults: The one thing each child had in common in his environment was time—to himself to contemplate and to think and to create according to his own interests. 7.5" x 10," Softcover, color, 32 pages.

DH07 Marie Curie - as a Child $5.95
DH08 Leonardo da Vinci - as a Child $5.95
DH09 Albert Einstein - as a Child $5.95
DH10 Amadeus Mozart - as a Child $5.95
DH11 Pablo Picasso - as a Child $5.95

DH120 Childhoods, Set/5 $29.50
own gifts to the whole.

Flags of the world have a special attraction to children. Ideally every classroom has a set of the flags of the world. A child might come in one morning with a story about India. She will gather all of the objects related to India in the classroom—a folder of pictures of Asia, the map of Asia with the puzzle piece of India, maybe a brass pitcher or statue from India, the flag of India, and so on. Often other children will join in the search, and maybe remind her of a song or poem from this country.

TEACHING HISTORY

In the "Earth" section you will find materials for teaching the concepts of solar system, constellations, and other subjects which will tie in with the later studies of history. At this age we give bits of information, stories from the past, experiences of place. These will all come together when the child reaches the age of six or seven or so and can reach back into time with the imagination. That is the time to give the many timelines.

Biographies of famous people are important pieces of the puzzle which will create the child's ultimate understanding of the history of the world. The teacher begins this with simple stories about herself.

I remember one story I told over and over. It was about the experience of getting up one morning, going through the living room to fix breakfast and seeing our horse staring in the living room window at me. That's all, no plot,

IMAGINATION IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN KNOWLEDGE.

BIOGRAPHY PRINTS

Displaying a large picture of a famous person, one who provides a positive model for children, is sure to create an interest. "Why is that person's picture so big?" is a common question. Each of these museum quality prints has a full color picture of the person, and a famous quote printed at the bottom. The dimensions are 18" x 24."

(*) DH020 Albert Einstein $15.00
(*) DH021 Martin Luther King, Jr. $15.00
(*) DH022 Mark Twain $15.00
(*) DH023 Abraham Lincoln $15.00
(*) DH024 Mother Teresa $15.00

FAMOUS ARTISTS

THEIR LIVES AS CHILDREN

Children love hearing about great and successful artists when they were children! We recommend introducing the child to a piece of art—in another book, with art postcards, or at a museum—of the artist you are reading about. The watercolor illustrations are charming, and several works of art are illustrated in each book. Softcover, 8.5", color, 20 pages.

DH18 Leonardo da Vinci $5.95
DH20 Michelangelo $5.95
DH19 Picasso $5.95
DH17 Toulouse-Lautrec $5.95
DH201 Artists, Set/4 $23.75

FAMOUS MUSICIANS

THEIR LIVES AS CHILDREN

When I was young our family had a book about Chopin with whimsical, watercolor illustrations which we loved. Children love to hear stories about these famous composers when they were young, and to hear the music of each along with the story. Softcover, 8.5", color, 20 pages.

DM23 Bach $5.95
DM235 Beethoven $5.95
DM24 Brahms $5.95
DM25 Chopin $5.95
DM26 Handel $5.95
DM27 Haydn $5.95
DM28 Mozart $5.95
DM285 Schubert $5.95
DM29 Schumann $5.95
DM30 Tchaikovsky $5.95

THE STORY OF JOHNNY APPLESEED

Many years ago when America was a new country, there lived a brave and gentle man named John Chapman. One day he looked at the seeds of an apple he had just eaten and thought "If one gathered seeds, and planted them, our land would soon be filled with apple trees." This is his story. Softcover, 9" x 7," color, 30 pages.

DP1146 $5.95

A WEED IS A FLOWER

THE STORY OF GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER

Weed? Flower? It just depends on where it is growing. This is the story of the life of George Washington Carver. He was the son of slaves and became one of the most famous people on earth because of his interest in and work with plants. He once served a meal with eight dishes, all made from peanuts—and no one knew it! He devoted his life to helping his people and the world around him. The story is told with charming color illustrations and few words. Softcover, 7" x 9," full color, 28 pages.

DP11 $5.95
just a true experience, and the children loved it—asking for me to repeat the little story over and over. This kind of story is followed by stories of famous people, especially as little children.

The final element of history and geography is the interconnectedness of humans with the earth, the plants and animals, and with each other. All the bits of information are given with this final understanding in mind.

The mental construction of geography and history will come together in a different way for each child. It is our responsibility to arrange for many various and interesting experiences which inspire the child to want to know more.

STATE BIRD STICKERS & FLOWER STICKERS
Identifying a state by a colorful puzzle piece, and with a state flag, with the state flowers and state birds, brings geography alive for a child. One idea is to make a "state" project combining a tracing of the puzzle piece, a drawing of the flag, and adding the state flower and bird stickers. In the classroom the teacher can prepare cards using the stickers for the child to match to the puzzle piece.

DG06 Colored USA Puzzle $50.00
(*) DG070 Wood-Tones USA Puzzle $50.00

UNITED STATES MAGNETIC PUZZLE MAP
This new puzzle map of the United States comes packed in a convenient storage envelope so it can be taken along on visits and trips. On one side of the double-sided playboard there is an outline of the USA and each state. So in the beginning this is simply a shape-matching exercise. When the child is ready to test her knowledge, she can turn the playboard over and assembles the states in the plane ground by memory. The state pieces are made of flexible magnetic vinyl. The puzzle is 12" x 18," in full color.

(*) DG055 $25.00

COMING TO AMERICA - The Story of Immigration
This book tells the story of the continually evolving history of immigration to the United States in a way that delights the young child. This is a long saga of people coming first in search of food, and then, later, in a quest for religious and political freedom, safety, and prosperity. It is a fascinating story that explains the richness and diversity of the American people, past and present. America is a nation of immigrants. From the first nomadic settlers, to the huge wave of immigrants in the nineteenth century, to the refugees from troubled areas of the world, each group of immigrants has contributed in its unique way to the rich fabric of American life. Hardcover, 8.5" x 11," color, 40 pages.

DH366 $15.95
The most important preparation of the environment for successful development of spoken and written language in the child is the language environment of the home. It is never too early to speak clearly and precisely to the child. In fact the language of the caregivers in the first six years of life will literally form the spoken language of the child. Reading aloud to the child gives the message that reading is fun for everyone, and concepts and vocabulary words will be experienced which would never come up in spoken language.

Reading and writing should not be taught to a child before age six or seven, but, given the sensorial experiences of appropriate materials a child of normal intelligence will quite naturally teach herself to read and write sometimes as early as three or four years of age.

Here is a quote from Dr. Montessori about her experience in the first Casa dei Bambini, "house of children," in Rome in the beginning of this century:

Ours was a house for children, rather than a real school. We had prepared a place for children where a diffused culture could be assimilated from the environment, without any need for direct instruction . . . Yet these children learned to read and write before they were five, and no one had given them any lessons. At that time it seemed miraculous that children of four and a half should be able to write, and that they should have learned without the feeling of having been taught.

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**THE RANDOM HOUSE BOOK OF EASY-TO-READ STORIES**

The first actual reading a child does is often in books that parents have read to them over and over—during the sensitive period for repetition. In this new hardback book you will find 165 of the favorite tales of children today, from noted authors such as the Berenstains, Tomie de Paola, Laurent de Brunhoff, Dr. Seuss, and Richard Scarry. Stories such as: Babar's Picnic, The Teeny Tiny Woman, The Ugly Duckling, and The Surprise Party. All of the stories were written with young readers in mind and have proven themselves over the years. They are illustrated with the same color pictures as the originals.

Hardcover, color, 9" x 11," 251 pages.

**"FOAM FUN" ALPHABET REFRIGERATOR MAGNETS**

This is a very pleasant alternative to the old brightly colored plastic magnets made for refrigerators. Instead of tiny magnets inserted in the back, these letters are made of foam, completely backed with sheet magnet. We especially like the colors which are in soft shades—pink, green, blue, and yellow.

There are 70 lowercase letters—which are much better for learning than capital letters, and hard to find—and also periods, capital letters and commas. The letters are between 1.5" and 2.25" tall.

**SANDPAPER LETTERS TEMPLATES**

For years we have been asked to help parents and teachers make sandpaper letters—of the correct size but not as expensive as those usually used in schools. Since nothing like this exists we have created a set of cardboard templates with directions for making "sandpaper" letters.

The letters on these templates are exactly the size and style used at the Montessori training center in London—italics is preferred by many experienced teachers for several reasons (1) it teaches the graceful "flow" of the hand which prepares the child for beautiful handwriting, (2) there is no confusion between letters such as "d" and "p" because the letters are distinct from each other, and (3) italics, being halfway between print and cursive, prepares the child to read both.

The kit consists of twenty-six 8.5" x 11" pieces of white cardboard, each with one printed letter, and instructions for creating sandpaper letters.

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**THE BOOK OF VIRTUES TREASURY OF THE GREATEST STORIES.**

Children today learn too much from television, especially in the area of morals and violence. To counteract this we can share with them the old traditional favorite stories which teach the morals we really want for our children. In our family, nightly reading has been something to look forward almost every day of our children's lives. And this is when we shared many of these old tales.

Some of our personal favorites are: The Tortoise and the Hare, The Little Engine (remember "I think I can"?)?, The Selfish Giant, The Ant and the Grasshopper, The Boy Who Cried Wolf, The Lion and the Mouse, The Little Red Hen, and The Velveteen Rabbit. And there are hundreds more. If you only have one reading book in the home or classroom, we recommend this one—and the selections are interesting not only to the young child, but teenagers and adults. Hardcover, 818 pages.

**REFRIGERATOR MAGNETS**

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We puzzled over it for a long time. Only after repeated experiments did we conclude with certainty that all children are endowed with this capacity to absorb culture. If this be true—we then argued—if culture can be acquired without effort, let us provide the children with other elements of culture. And then we saw them 'absorb' far more than reading and writing: botany, zoology, mathematics, geography, and all with the same ease, spontaneously and without getting tired.

And so we discovered that education is not something which the teacher does, but that it is a natural process which develops spontaneously in the human being. It is not acquired by listening to words, but in virtue of experiences in which the child acts on his environment. The teacher's task is not to talk, but to prepare and arrange a series of motives for cultural activity in a special environment made for the child.

My experiments, conducted in many different countries, have now been going on for forty years (ed. Now ninety-plus years), and as the children grew up parents kept asking me to extend my methods to the later ages. We then found that individual activity is the one factor that stimulates and produces development, and that this is not more true for the little ones of preschool age than it is for the junior, middle and upper school children.

- Maria Montessori
from The Absorbent Mind

It is no accident that some children are good at reading and writing and others are not, that some find joy in this work and for others it is tedious. The preparation for enjoying the exploration

ALPHABET TRAIN FLOOR PUZZLE
10 FEET LONG
Some children need a lot of large muscle movement incorporated into their learning. This puzzle is perfect for this particular child. There are 27 self-correcting puzzle pieces. That means there is only one way for each two pieces to join. In finding the pieces that fit each other, the child assembles the alphabet in correct order. Eventually she will learn to associate the beginning sounds of the objects with the letter, and the capital with the lower case letters.

The puzzle is ten feet long, made of easy-to-clean, full color cardboard.
(*) DL060 $10.50

ANIMAL ALPHABET WALL CHART
This is a lovely wall chart to hang in the child's room at the age when he is interested in learning the names of animals and the names of letters. Each animal is printed in vivid color on a white background, so it can be distinguished from anything that might confuse the child—important in teaching vocabulary.

The lower case letter for the beginning sound of the name of the animal is enclosed in the box with the animal. For the older child the complete word is also written for each animal.

The wall chart is 20" x 30," full color, printed on heavy paper and laminated on both sides.
(*) DL015 $5.00

ALPHABET PUZZLE
It is best to wait until the child is well underway with reading and writing, using only lower case letters and the sounds of letters, before expecting him to learn the capital letters and the names of letters. However, with this puzzle, the child can begin to absorb the relationship between the lower case and capitals long before this time.

There are pictures beneath each letter for "sounding out" practice. The colors of each pair of letters matches so the child can also use this as a matching puzzle outside the puzzle frame. The wooden puzzle is 12" x 18", and the letters are red, blue, yellow, and green.
DL485 $16.00

THREE LETTER WOODEN PUZZLE
At about this time a child may begin to sound out her own words. This puzzle consists of three wooden cubes, each with four lower case letters, which turn independently, making up many, many words, some real, like pen, bug, and mat, and many imaginary but which are fun to sound out, like mun, and pam.

Five inches long.
DL15 $7.00
of language in life begins before birth as the child responds to the voices he hears even in the womb.

For success in language a child needs confidence that what she has to say is important, a desire to relate to others, real experience on which language is based, and the physical abilities necessary in reading and writing. There are several things that we can do to help.

We can listen and talk to the child from birth on, not in baby talk, but with respect and with a rich vocabulary. We can provide a stimulating environment, rich in sensorial experiences and in language, providing a wealth of experience, because language is meaningless if it is not based on experience. We can set an example and model precise language in our everyday activities with the child. If we share good literature, in the form of rhymes, songs, poetry and stories we will greatly increase the child’s love of language.

LANGUAGE OF THE CHILD’S WORLD
The most important specific vocabulary words, and the most useful to the child, are the names of the everyday objects in her home environment—clothing, kitchen objects, tools, toys, and so forth. Your child will be thrilled to know the names and to be able to use them correctly.

VOCABULARY CARDS—SPEAKING
If you ever visit a Montessori classroom you will notice that there are many vocabulary books and cards. It is natural that, during this intense interest in words, children be given pictures of everything—to practice and improve

ALPHABET MAGNET SET
When the child is exploring letters, he might want first to sort them, “t’s” together, tall and short letters grouped, or even to try to make up words and sentences. These little magnetics can be put on the refrigerator, or the board and the magnets can be used together. This is excellent for a travel game. There are 99 lower case and 26 upper case magnetic alphabet tiles, 7 blank tiles, and a 9” x 12” magnetic board.

DL12 $11.95

500 WORDS — IN ENGLISH OR SPANISH
When a child is interested in learning the names of real objects in the environment, and the names of the sounds of letters, we introduce vocabulary books and cards. Because this child is working hard to figure out reality we recommend books that present the real world rather than the imaginative reality of Richard Scarry books or talking animals at this stage. Imagination and fairy tales are very important, but not appropriate at this stage.

These little 500 Words books have been a favorite for over twenty years. As they are difficult to find in stores today we offer it here. The Spanish version has the words both in English and in Spanish. Each page pictures groups of words and matching pictures, such as color words, people words, words to wear, toys, kitchen words, and so on. Softcover, 8" x 8.5", color, 26 pages.

CB185 500 Words, English $3.25
CB190 500 Words, Spanish & English $3.25
their new abilities. These books and cards are valuable for the home. There are many selections in *The Joyful Child, Essential Montessori for 0-3* appropriate for this age. See page 96.

**Experience First**

In any good language environment, in as many situations as possible, the teacher makes sure that experience precedes vocabulary and pictures of objects. She will introduce real vegetables before vegetable cards, real actions before verb cards, real music before composer picture and labels, real shells before shell cards, and so on. In this way the child learns that language is connected to the real world.

**Pre-Reading and Writing**

There are three main areas where we can help children prepare for reading and writing. When the ground is well prepared over the years before reading and writing is attempted, acquiring these skills is very enjoyable.

1. **Physical skills**—balance, using the hands, coordination of eye-hand work, learning to concentrate and focus, recognizing sizes and shapes, working with knobbled puzzles, crayons and pencils, and practice in speaking.
2. **Mental skills**—absorbing and using language, learning the "sounds" that each letter makes (not the 'names' of the letter) and playing games to break up words into sounds—the "I spy" game.
3. **Social**—living in homes where people talk at the table, sit down and have conversations, and read, instead of watching television or "learning language" on a computer.

**The Children's Visual Dictionary**

An Illustrated Word Finder

Naming and comparing clearly labeled images helps children build vocabulary while thematically arranged pages offer new discoveries, and practice in classifying topics such as musical instruments, mammals, sea creatures, or space.

This exciting new illustrated dictionary includes more than 2,500 nouns, verbs, and adjectives—especially chosen to enrich a young child's vocabulary. There are more than 700 color photographs and illustrations with large-print labels. Each picture is presented in beautiful full color, on a white background, so the child is clear about what the label indicates.

At first the book can be used for spontaneous conversation and casual naming of the pages that interest the child. Eventually, because children love repetition, those pages may be the first actual reading. Other themes include: people, school, work, shopping, food, sports, homes, farm, traveling, plants, weather, land environments, water environments, early life on earth.

Hardcover, 10" x 13.5," full color, 64 pages. ($ DL140 $14.95

**Usborne Sticker Books**

Children are so proud of knowing the correct names of animals and plants. And sticker books give practice in matching and dexterity. In these books the punch-out colored stickers are on white background which enables the child to see the picture clearly. The adult can use them to make language cards so that the child can practice reading the words he already knows. There are drawings and information on each picture (good for definition reading cards). Each book contains 60 - 100 different examples in full color. The images are: 1" - 2" tall

- DL611 Flower Stickers $7.95
- DL612 Seashore Stickers $7.95
- DL613 Insect Stickers $7.95

**Shell Postcards Book**

This book of shell postcards contains 24 full-color pictures suitable for making vocabulary cards. They are of regular postcard size and quality and ready to cut out. They are especially valuable when the child is interested in the shell collection and most of these shells are pictured. Order two books for making picture matching or making reading cards.

DL47 $4.95

53
The I Spy Game
When your child has built up a knowledge of the names of objects by pictures, introduce the I Spy Game. Pick up an object, a ball. Say "I spy something in my hand that begins with (the sound) b (not the sound bee)." Do this with several objects, maybe the same ones for weeks. Eventually we use pictures for this game as well.

Later on to sound out the ending sound and finally the whole word. This is similar to spelling but we say isolated sounds, not letters. Lamb would be sounded out as l-a-m. We are not teaching spelling, or reading, we are helping the child become aware of the sounds of language, and having fun, both very important for learning language. You will be amazed at the ability of a child to later decode words when he has had this game as preparation.

Reading and Writing
Children should never be forced to read and write at a young age. But the tools to do so, when offered and their use shown, inspire many to do so. This is the sensitive period in a child’s life for knowing the names of everything, including the sounds of letters, and for touching and feeling. So we offer letters made of sandpaper to trace with their fingers while saying the sound.

Children often spontaneously "explode" into writing, which naturally appears several months before reading.

Since 99% of written language is in lower case letters, you will be doing a child a favor to begin with these ("a" and "b", not "A" and "B"), and with the sounds instead of the names of the letters.

Examples of Kitchen Objects Cards

Michael Olaf Vocabulary Cards
Having been unable over the years to find exactly the right reading cards for the 3-6 classroom, we are beginning to produce our own. We have selected the four most important topics for the 3-6 class to begin: Kitchen Objects, Continents and Land Forms (see Age 3-6, Earth section), and Montessori Materials (two sets).

Two sets of these cards, without labels, can be used for simple matching of pictures. When the child is ready to read, they are among the very first reading exercises given to children in the 3-6 class. Order two sets for making reading cards. Each set contains 22-24 different black and white pictures, with the name written in lower case letters at the bottom. They are 4" x 5.5" cardstock.

DL026 Kitchen Objects Cards, Set/24 $7.00
DL680 Montessori Materials Cards I, Set/24 $7.00
DL684 Montessori Materials Cards II, Set/24 $7.00

Examples of Montessori Materials I Cards

Examples of Montessori Materials II Cards

Child-Size Masterpieces
"...gives children an opportunity to engage in entertaining activity, stimulate their intelligence, sharpen artistic taste and foster cultural knowledge."

In the art history manual, Child-size Masterpieces, directions are given for organizing and presenting art postcards to children, from the simple stages of matching identical pictures, to laying out timelines of the development of schools of art through history.

Each art postcard book contains 36 postcards, labeled and color coded on the back, ready to be cut out and placed in the correct folder. Specific directions for making the folders are found in the instruction manual. For children ages 2-12.

DL70 Child-Size Masterpieces (instruction manual) $10.95
DL71 Easy Matching Postcards $10.95
DL72 Intermediate Matching $10.95
DL73 Advanced Matching $10.95
DL74 Names of Artists $10.95
DL75 Names of Paintings $10.95
DL76 Black Images in Art $10.95
DL765 Masterpieces, Set/7 $75.00

See also Michael Olaf “Shell” reading cards on page 38.
To meet the child’s need to touch and feel, and to learn the names of everything, we use sandpaper letters. The child feels and says the sound, repeating many times. The traditional sandpaper letters used in the 3-6 class are very sturdy and expensive, but it is possible to make some at home, or for the child to trace letters in corn meal or sand.

For those who were not ready physically to write with a pencil, but who were mentally ready, she prepared cutout movable letters for their work. This ‘movable alphabet’ is still used in schools today.

Above all, this work must be offered in a spirit of enjoyment and not imposed. Adults really have to forget the tedious process they might have gone through to learn to read, and to approach it in a spirit of fun and ease.

**VOCABULARY CARDS—READING**

When a child first begins to recognize the sounds of letters in groups—words—he is doing this silently in his head. Saying these words aloud complicates the process, especially if someone is listening. So a child is not asked to read aloud in the beginning.

To give him practice with this new, exciting single-word skill, the child is given groups of picture cards, pictures of objects for which he already knows the names. He reads each label and matches it to the picture.

Then, if the names of the objects have been written on the back of the picture cards, the child can turn the pictures over to see if he has placed the labels correctly.

**INPRINT CARDS**

The following sets of vocabulary cards are printed in black and white on heavy card stock. Each set introduces an area of exploration for the child as well as giving her practice in silent reading and in classifying objects.

The **Living/Nonliving** set contains fourteen 3” x 4” picture cards and two labels. The cards are to be sorted into the two categories: living and nonliving. I recommend coding them on the back, “1” and “n,” so that the child can check her own work when she finishes sorting.

**Plant/Animal** and **Vertebrate/Invertebrate** sets are the same format, 14 cards in each set.

**Classification of Vertebrates** contains twenty-five 3” x 2.5” picture cards to be sorted into five labeled categories: fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.

**Animals of Seven Continents** contains thirty-five 3” x 2.5” picture cards and seven labels. These are to be sorted into groups of five animals each from seven continents. You can link this up to puzzle pieces of the continents, or continent books.

- DL52 Living/Nonliving: $8.00
- DL53 Plant/Animal: $8.00
- DL54 Vertebrate/Invert.: $8.00
- DL55 Classification of Vert.: $11.00
- DL56 Animals of 7 Continents: $15.00
- DL565 InPrint, Set/5: $49.00

**2-PART LANGUAGE TRAY**

This beautiful wood tray is used for vocabulary cards at all levels. In the first stage we place objects (such as shells) on one side of the divider, and pictures which match the objects on the other. For the second stage we introduce two sets of cards which exactly match each other. In the third stage pictures without labels are "labeled" as the child places a one-word label under the picture, and then lays a labeled card next to each to check her work. In the final stage the child is given definitions, and then cut-up definitions to match to pictures.

Michael Olaf cards, art postcards, many different vocabulary cards can be used with this special tray. There is a handle at each end for a firm grasp. The tray is hand made of hardwood, and finished to the highest standards.

- Dimensions: 17.5" x 7.75"
- Price: $23.00

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Michael Olaf's Essential Montessori for ages 3-12+, 2000-2001

(*) = new item
Children love reading and checking their own work and will repeat over and over again till they get it exactly right. Hundreds of meaningful words can be added to the child’s reading vocabulary in this way.

Just as with giving spoken vocabulary, the most important words to give the child when beginning to read are the labels of the common objects in the home. Then other objects of interest such as shells, cats, toys, etc.

**Reading Books**

There are many good nonfiction books for the early reader throughout this publication, and just as children at this age love to learn the names of real things in the environment, they love to learn about the real world through books. Books which have been read to them often can sometimes make the best first reading books.

**Exploring Language**

Sometimes we adults find it hard to believe that children can love grammar, but they do. It is exciting for a child to realize that words written on a slip of paper can tell her which object to choose, or that some words (verbs) can tell her to DO something, like "smile," "hop," or "sit." Children love to enact them for each other and guess what the word says.

If we help our children with the physical preparation of the body and hands, listen carefully to our children when they talk to us, set an example of loving to read, and approach giving our children language with the same spirit of fun with which we play other games, we will be doing the most important things to prepare for a successful life of reading and writing.

**PEACE READERS**

This is a set of charming and important early reading books - to read to the child—and later for the child to read. The drawings are simple hand-drawn figures and the subjects are important. The titles are: (1) I Live in the Universe, (2) I Look “Out” at the Stars, (3) I Know What Gravity Does, (4) Pledge to the Earth, and (5) I Offer You Peace. Printed in black ink on five different earth tone colors of cardstock, 5.5" x 5.5," a set of 5 books.

(*) DL070 $30.00

**BOB BOOKS**

When you notice that a child is starting to sound out words on her own and has learned many of the letter sounds (not the names), this is the time to introduce these wonderful books.

They were drawn and written by a teacher for her students to fill a gap in beginning reading. The first set of twelve books contains simple, short, mostly phonetic words, and the next two sets of eight books progress to include more words per page and a few non-phonetic words. The stories are about nonsensical imaginary figures who interact in delightful ways.

The progression is arranged to provide success for the child, and the satisfaction of finishing a whole book! The drawings are simple hand-drawn figures and funny enough to interest an older beginning reader. 4.5" x 5.5," three boxes of booklets.

DL19 Box 1 (12 Books) $16.95
DL20 Box 2 (8 Books) $16.95
DL21 Box 3 (8 Books) $16.95
DL22 Complete set $46.00

**GRAMMAR BOOKS**

This is a simple, colorful, fun way to be introduced to an important subject—grammar.

In these amazing first grammar books, nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, and prepositions are presented with simple rhyme and beautiful pictures. Such exploration and interest in the structure of everyday language is a natural part of life at this age. Older children (and adults) find that these books simplify concepts that may have seemed complicated.

Hardcover, 9" x 9," color, 48 pages.

DL81 (collective nouns) Cache of Jewels $17.95
DL82 (verbs) Kites Sail High $17.95
DL83 (adjectives) Luscious Lollipops $17.95
DL84 (nouns) Merry-go-Round $17.95
DL85 (adverbs) Up, Up, and Away $17.95
DL851 (prepositions) Behind the Mask $17.95
DL855 Grammar Books, Set/6 $107.00

**LITTLE RIDDLE READING CARDS**

Each set of riddle reading cards contains twenty-four cards with a colored picture on one side and several "clues" as to what the picture is on the other. Adults can help the child with this game at first and eventually he will be able to read the clues himself, guess the answer, then turn over the card to see if he guessed rightly.

Examples from Set I: pig, teapot, airplane, fire, flower, clown, fishbowl, glue, pumpkin, egg. Set 2: elevator, globe, cactus, comb, rooster, shadow, newspaper, rainbow, scissors, telephone, kangaroo, popcorn. Cardstock, color, 6" x 6," 24 cards in each set.

DL985 Riddles, Set 1 $9.50
DL987 Riddles, Set 2 $9.50

**PREPOSITIONS**

Up, Up and Away
A Book About Prepositions BY RUTH HELLER

DL205 $17.95

**ADVERBS**

Behind the Mask
A Book About Adverbs BY RUTH HELLER

DL206 $17.95
AGE 3-6  MUSIC

If you can walk, you can dance.
If you can talk, you can sing.
—Zimbabwe Proverb

SINGING
Humans are born to sing. As soon as a child can focus on the mouth of the mother, he is studying how lips move and how sounds are made. When he begins to make intentional sounds and the adult imitates them, the first duet is born. Let us help the child continue with this joyful human creation.

There is no such thing as a nonmusical child, there are just nonmusical adults who did not get this practice as children. Songs give children a way of expressing emotions, and the very act of singing is a physical release. I have always watched for the casual, unintentional singing in class, knowing that it is a positive sign. In our home, hearing our son sing in bed as he went to sleep at night was a reassuring sign.

MUSIC CURRICULUM FOR THE 3-6 CLASS
See page 97 for more information
GB73 $5.00

CHILDREN'S SONGS - FOLK SONGS WALKING ON THE LINE MUSIC - RHYTHMS BOOKS AND TAPES

There is something truly magical about these songs. They were composed over the years by a dad, a Montessori teacher who was in the classroom, singing and making music with the children at the time.


Folk Songs From Around the World contains Simple Gifts, Waltzing Matilda, Congolese Lullaby, Song of the Volga Boatmen, Shalom, and fourteen others.

The Children's Songs/Folk Songs tape includes both volumes of these songs, sung by children.

The Walking on the Line/Rhythms tape is a recording of piano music for children to listen to as they practice carefully walking on a line in the 3-6 classroom, which children do whenever they feel the urge. Walking on the line is not only for balance, but for focusing and returning to a joyful calmness. The second side of the tape is for moving to different rhythms (NOT on the line).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DM720 Children's Songs (book)</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>DM725 Folk Songs (book)</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DM730 Children's Songs/Folk Songs (Cassette tape)</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DM710 Walking on the Line/Rhythms (Cassette tape)</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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"WEE SING" SONGS AROUND THE WORLD
(Book & Tape) The cassette tape which comes with this booklet contains the lyrics, melody line, and chords for each song.

As the peoples of the world increase in the amount of contact they have with each other it is more and more important that our children experience elements of other cultures, such as languages and songs.

Wee Sing Around the World contains over 40 traditional songs, in native tongues, from North America (Canada, USA, Mexico, West Indies, Puerto Rico, Jamaica), South America (Guyana, Brazil, Argentina, Peru), Europe (Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Scotland, England, France, Switzerland, Germany, Spain, Italy, Greece, Russia, Yugoslavia), Africa (Ghana, Nigeria, Zaire, Kenya), Asia (Turkey, Iran, Israel, India, China, Korea, Japan, Malaysia), Australia, and Oceania (New Zealand, Hawaii). The tape is almost an hour long. The lyrics are in both the original language and English. (Booklet and Tape) DL992 $10.00

THE NURSERY RHYME SONGBOOK
(Book & Tape) We believe that it is impossible to give a child at this age too many songs to sing. This is the period of the absorbent mind when the increase of vocabulary is greater than it will ever be again in life. It is also the time when musical ability is going to be developed to the fullest if the environment supports this growth.

This special publication contains 40 traditional songs of the English language. On the accompanying tape they are sung by children in the British Isles in the charming accents of the birthplace of English. The music is specially arranged for the range of children's voices, and all of the songs have the accompaniment for piano or guitar. While younger children sing the words, older children can play the tunes on the recorder, flute, or violin. The traditional English-language children's favorites include: Hey Diddle Diddle, Itsy Bitsy Spider, Lavender's Blue, Little Miss Muffet, Ring Around the Rosies, I'm a Little Teapot, Sing a Song of Sixpence, The Owl and the Pussy-Cat, Three Blind Mice, and many other favorites. Games and guitar chords in the back. Published and recorded in London. The book is softcover, 8.5" x 11," full color, 48 pages. (Book and Tape) DM750 $19.95

CHILDFOR THE WORLD, Michael Olaf's Essential Montessori for ages 3-12+, 2000-2001

(*) = new items
that his life is in balance. We do not need beautiful voices to model singing for children.

Singing also gives practice in language, new words, poetry, and historical and other cultural information.

In a class, where children work individually instead of having group lessons, the teacher will sing a song, make music, dance, at any time during the day with two or three children who aren’t busy. Others may join in as they please. Any child can make music whenever she feels like it.

LISTENING TO MUSIC

Just as beautiful speech comes from years of listening, music appreciation and accomplishment comes from years of listening to music.

Songs, folk, ethnic, and classical music played on real instruments, experimentation with good percussion instruments, is ideally is a part of the daily life of every child.

We can help a musical ear’s development by being careful to eliminate background sound—TV, radio, constant random music—so that the sense of hearing is ever alert and not "turned off" by too much auditory input.

COMPOSERS

Stories of composers, especially stories about when they were children, are always interesting and important for young children. They show that famous composers did not just spring full-grown into being, but were regular children who became interested in

TEACHING PEACE

Several schools have given music programs for the parents with these songs because they are so well loved.

World peace is a best an abstract concept. These original catchy songs break down the vague idea into practical, loving examples. One, which children love to memorize, is mainly a list of countries.

INTERNATIONAL PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS

Next to singing and dancing, playing percussion and other musical instruments is the best musical experience for young children. We offer here real instruments of natural materials and with an interesting cultural link to the rest of the world.

The Andean Drum (8" in diameter) is made of wood and bark from the Eucalyptus tree, gut from pigs which are the main meat of Andean families, and handwoven twine. The Antara, or pan pipe, (3-4" wide) gets its name from the Quechua language of the Incas. It is made of bamboo pipes and is very typical of South American music. The "clacker" sounds like wooden castanets on a handle, and the brightly painted 9" maracas in Mexico. The rainstick, or Palos de Aqua, (12" long) from Chile, is made from dead Normata Cactus, reamed out, thorns pounded into the sides and filled with small pebbles, which fall through the thorns and sound like rain. African instruments include a pair of brightly colored, woven straw rattles (about 6"), a "swizzle drum" or hand drum (6" - 11" long), a small, 6" shakere is made of a special kind of gourd, covered with a string net of seeds which hit against the gourd to make an interesting sound, a special woven Kenya Rattle, and a 6" long thumb piano or kalimba of pounded metal and carved wood.

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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Clacker</td>
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<td>Chilean Rainstick</td>
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<td>$15.00</td>
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writting down the music in their heads.

**Musical Instruments**
It is important for children to realize that music is always the result of body movements. Even if there are natural sounds, children need to understand that music is produced by human beings using various muscles of the mouth, hands and arms.

They should know how many different instruments there are and should have the opportunity to witness how musicians control their gestures so as to obtain different musical sounds.

—Dr. Silvana Montanaro

To help a child experience this important part of a good education, we recommend real percussion instruments from different countries of the world, as well as Western classical instruments, for quality, variety, and beauty of sound, and for the connection to different cultures.

Listening to a heartbeat with a stethoscope, then tapping out the rhythms of the children's names with the instruments is a good introduction to rhythm.

Children at this age are very open to learning the techniques of instruments considered very difficult—such as piano or violin—when they have a system of learning, such as Suzuki, which bases its teaching on the natural development of children.

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**Swedish Glockenspiel**
The Glockenspiel has a long tradition as an important percussion instrument and this beautiful handmade version is a modern example of a centuries-old design. Great composers like Mozart (in The Magic Flute) and Tchaikovsky (in The Nutcracker) used glockenspiels in their work. Our glockenspiel is made in Sweden. There is a simple wooden frame, supporting 8 solid brass bars marked with the diatonic (Western scale) notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C. The rich tones, when struck by the wooden mallet, are true, as this is a high quality percussion instrument. Many beginning Suzuki piano pieces can be played on it. 9.5” in length.

DM333
$30.00

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**International Musical Instrument Cards**
Children love to sort, and these cards can be sorted in two ways—by continent or by music classification. Basically musical instruments can be classified into three groups, (1) wind, the sound made by the movement of air, (2) percussion, the sound made by two objects hitting against each other, and (3) string, the sound made by the vibration of a string when plucked. As children learn more and more about the cultures, especially the music of the different continents of earth, they can learn to sort the musical instrument cards by continent. There is a "control" card for the adult for both of these classification.

Two sets of these cards, without labels, can be used for simple matching of pictures. When the child is ready to read, they are among the very first reading exercises given to children in the 3-6 class. Order two sets for making reading cards. The set contains 24 different black and white pictures, with the name written in lower case letters at the bottom. They are printed on 4” x 5.5” cardstock. Set/24.

DL60
$7.00
A new form of educational system will not appear until we give serious consideration to the fact that we have a "double mind." Children at any age must be offered a balanced experience of VERBAL and INTUITIVE thinking to help develop the great potential of the human mind. The results will not only include better functioning of the brain but also greater happiness in personal and social life.

In Western education, we tend to separate them, because many of the things the right hemisphere (intuitive) is able to do are not highly valued in our civilization. So from a very young age, children learn not to express themselves completely with that hemisphere because they haven’t been urged to give much importance to body-movement in dancing or in singing, drawing...all the arts. In Eastern civilizations, however, greater importance tends to be given to the intuitive part of the brain; the logical hemisphere is considered irrelevant in solving the real problems of our existence.

It is a source of great hope for our immediate future that the most advanced human beings of both cultures are uniting in the recognition that we need each other to become complete and that we have a lot to share.

—Dr. Silvana Montanaro, M.D.

What does not exist in the cultural environment will not develop in the child.

—Dr. Shinichi Suzuki
The truth is that when a free spirit exists, it has to materialize itself in some form of work, and for this the hands are needed. Everywhere we find traces of men's handiwork, and through these we can catch a glimpse of his spirit and the thoughts of his time.

The skill of man's hand is bound up with the development of his mind, and in the light of history we see it connected with the development of civilization.

—Dr. Maria Montessori

**ART CURRICULUM FOR THE 3-6 CLASS**

See page 97 for more information

**GB74** $5.00

**MODELING BEESWAX**

This beautiful art product is softened by holding it in your hands, or next to your heart, as the figure takes shape in your mind. Once the wax is formed it becomes hard again until re-softened. It makes lovely little flowers, animals, people, etc. It can also be used to decorate candles with shapes and figures. The beeswax comes in a set of fifteen 4" x 1.5" x 1.4" pieces, each a different color.

**DA04** $16.95

**PLASTALINA CLAY AND TOOLS**

One of the most soothing activities for an upset child is to work with clay. This modeling clay is for artists of all ages. It has a pigmented oil base compound renowned for its smooth consistency and the fact that it never hardens and can be used over and over, shaping and reshaping. The colors are earth tones and bright colors: red, blue, yellow, and green.

The clay cutter is a wire with two small wooden handles with which the child can cut the clay into pieces, and the 6-piece wooden modeling tool set allows the child to cut, shape, smooth, and decorate the clay with a choice of patterns.

**DA220** Clay, one pound (earth tones) $3.50
**DA230** Clay, one pound (bright colors) $3.50
**DA240** Tools Set/6 + wire cutter $11.50

**PRISMACOLOR SCHOLAR COLORED PENCILS**

Over the years, in our home and in schools, we have tried just about every kind of colored pencil. We have found pencils by Prismacolor to be the best. However, since the leads are soft, schools often choose not to use them because the lead can break, even far inside the pencil, if dropped on a hard surface, and because they get used up quickly if a child does not know how to sharpen them correctly.

Prismacolor scholar pencils were created to rectify this situation. They are of the same beautiful color, with a harder lead that lasts much longer than regular prismacolor. For schools we recommend ordering multiple boxes of the 12 pack. The name of the color is not printed on the side of the pencil—and they are much less expensive than the regular Prismacolor pencils.

For the home we recommend the largest box you can afford because children love the variety of color and they inspire the budding artist.

**DA812** Set/12 $9.35
**DA824** Set/24 $18.20
**DA836** Set/36 $26.80
**DA848** Set/48 $35.35

**WOOD AND BRASS PENCIL BOX FROM INDIA**

In years past children had special handmade wooden pencil boxes to carry with them to school. A box makes the arranging of pencils a favorite childhood memory for many, and a charming old-fashioned gift for a child.

Each box is individually hand-crafted in India and looks handmade. Keeping materials in order is very important for children, and this charming rosewood and brass container inspires the tendency. The box easily hold the set of 12 pencils.

**DA260** $7.95

**SKETCHBOOK A PERMANENT RECORD OF A CHILD'S THOUGHTS & PICTURES**

We cannot over estimate how wonderful it is to look back on our child's years of thoughts, sketches, tic-tac-toe games, and so forth as recorded in sketchbooks like this one. We carried them with us on trips, nature walks, to museums, even to boring situations such as restaurants when the children were young. And later our children continued the idea by creating ongoing journals, complete with drawings. Now we, and they, have priceless records of their lives.

This Strathmore paper is sold mostly to artists and art students. It is 60 pound paper, 9" x 12", 100 sheets with ring binding. It is good for pencils, colored pencils, even felt pens.

**DA260** $7.95
Art is a way of approaching life, of moving and speaking, of decorating a home and school, of selecting toys and books. It cannot be separated from every other element of life. We cannot “teach” a child to be an artist, but we can help him develop:

- An Eye that Sees
- A Hand that Obeys
- A Soul that Feels

**ART MATERIALS**

Children benefit from having a variety of art materials available to them at all times and a space to work, uninterrupted, when they are inspired. It is important to provide the best quality that we can afford—pencils, crayons, felt pens, clay, paper, brushes—and to teach the child how to care for them.

**ART ACTIVITIES**

Individual art work connected with other subjects is more creative, noncompetitive, and successful than group projects or models created by the teacher for children to imitate.

Just as any other activity in the 3-6 class, each art activity

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**PEG LOOM**

Children immediately grasp the technique of weaving with this simple but sturdy loom, and join in the 8000-year-old satisfying craft, making a purse or bag, coasters, or wall hangings. This provides a welcome opportunity for creativity and concentration for any child.

Everything the child needs to begin is included:
- hardwood loom with rugged nylon pegs,
- 100% wool yarns,
- strong cotton warp yarn,
- plastic needle,
- instructions.

**KIRIGAMI**

**JAPANESE PAPER CUTTING**

Kirigami is the ancient Japanese art of folding paper into a simple shape and making beautiful patterns with just a few cuts with the scissors. Even the youngest child can cut a simple shape and glue it onto a contrasting piece of paper for a lovely piece of art, and gradually learn to make more complicated designs—when he sees this being done around him. In class we keep a kirigami tray, with paper, scissors and glue always ready for the child.

The first kirigami books each contain 24 basic kirigami design, or flower patterns. The last, a little more advanced, teach how to make Christmas tags, tree ornaments, and other decorations. Each book comes with a supply of fifteen 7” x 7” pieces of colored paper. Extra paper comes in a pack of 65 sheets of 6” x 6” plain-colored paper of mixed colors.

- **DA423 Basic Design 1** $4.95
- **DA426 Basic Design 2** $4.95
- **DA430 Book 3 - Flowers** $4.95
- **DA431 Christmas Kirigami** $4.95
- **(*) DA432 Extra paper** $4.98

**CROCHET KIT**

"I made it myself" are words children love to say. We recommend first showing the child how to crochet a simple chain—first with fingers, and eventually with the crochet hook. This is good for boys and girls alike of course. When this gets easy some children will be able to begin to crochet a scarf. This can be a long, drawn-out and extremely satisfying project.

The kit contains beautiful 100% pure virgin wool yarn in complimentary colors of green and blue. There is a 2 oz. ball of 2-ply main color, a 1 oz. ball of 2-ply accent color, a size #1 crochet hook, a tapestry needle and instructions. There is enough yarn to make either a scarf, a hat, or a purse.

- **(*) DA023** $14.50

**ARTIST CLIP BOARD**

Any artist needs to keep track of her work, and sometimes may prefer to work on the floor. To avoid the frustration of working on an uneven surface we suggest this clip board. There is a cutout handle on one side to make it easy to carry around, and a child as young as four or five can learn to use the strong clip to secure a picture for taking along to work on in a car.

This large clip board is also good for the older child (and the adult), to keep several writing or drawing projects together and protected from wrinkling. Made of almost indestructible fiberboard, 13.5” x 17.5”.

- **DA11** $8.00

**SCISSORS**

These excellent scissors are molded to fit either right or left hands, with an oversize handle which allows for several different grips by young children. The blunt tip and precision ground edges make them perfect for many different uses in the home or classroom. 5” long.

- **DA556** $3.25

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**ERIC**

items

USA Toll Free ORDER Number 888.880.9235
is kept complete and ready for use. The adult gives a lesson to one child, complete with cleaning up, so that he can choose this work at any time. If a child is interested in painting for example, he will find an apron, paper, paints and brushes, all clean and ready.

This cycle of work and the cleaning up, so that it is ready for a friend to use, is psychologically very satisfying for a child.

**ART APPRECIATION**

Reproductions of great masterpieces inspire an appreciation of beauty at any age. We hang them at the child's eye level, and provide art postcards to sort into groups, such as by artist.

Stories about artists, especially as children, are interesting for children.

With the children, we can designate a "museum" table, or shelf where beautiful art objects can be brought into the environment for temporary exhibits. Since everything else in the room is available for handling, this gives practice in just looking, like in a real museum, and allows close exposure to beautiful objects that the child might not otherwise have.

Whenever possible we give the best of examples of art and the best art materials, at the youngest, most impressionable age.

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**HOW ARTISTS SEE . . .**

We would like to congratulate the artist, the author, and the publisher on providing the very best books for introducing children to art. When I was taking my first teacher training course at The Maria Montessori Training Organization in London, we had books like this—now long out of print. We learned to help a child, during a look through books or at a museum, to focus on one subject—people, work, animals, weather, etc. This gives a child a purpose for investigating closely and getting to know great works of art. Each of these books does just that.

Aside from the excellent choice of subject and the quality of the reproductions, in the back of the book there are short biographies and information on where to find each artist's work. The library binding, at this price, convinces us that these books will run out.

Hardcover, library binding, color, 7.5" x 9," 47 pages.

- DA850 How Artists See Animals $10.95
- DA851 How Artists See Families $10.95
- DA852 How Artists See People $10.95
- DA853 How Artists See Weather $10.95
- DA854 How Artists See Work $10.95
- DA855 How Artists See Cities $10.95
- DA856 How Artists See Play $10.95
- DA860 How Artists See, Set/7 $75.00

**ART STICKERS**

These wonderful little Dover sticker books are sometimes difficult to find so we are offering as a set of the most popular ones. Each book contains 16 stickers that can be used in a variety of ways at home or in school. Each 1.74" x 2" sticker is labeled with the name of the artist and the painting. When one goes out of print we will substitute the most popular artist available at the time. Artists: Cassatt, Renoir, Gauguin, Chagall, Sargent, Michelangelo, Picasso, Matisse, Van Gogh, Degas.

Set of 10 books of stickers. (*) DA100 $10.00

**OXFORD FIRST BOOK OF ART**

This book includes a wonderfully varied collection of images—paintings, drawings, sculptures, and textiles—from all around the world and down through the ages.

In each section an art activity is suggested which shows children how they can apply the ideas they have been looking at to their own art. The themes include: letters and numbers, autumn and winter, light and shade, music, patterns, mother and child, figures, faces, imagined creatures, and others. There are directions for the parent or teacher on how to use the book to guide the child to search for specific elements in the paintings— which we find as interesting for the adult as for the child.

Hardcover, 12" x 12.5," full color, 45 pages

(*) DA105 $18.95

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**I AM AN ARTIST**

"I am an artist when I discover shadows made by the moon, or trace patterns in the sand, or when I name the colors inside a shell." "I am an artist when I notice that the sea is a mirror for the sky, and when I make something from the things that I collect."

This book has the same simple, gracious feeling as Goodnight Moon. It has a calming effect on the child and the adult, as it expresses the value of observing the world from the artist's point of view. Each page has a beautiful picture and only one sentence. Softcover, 8" x 10," color, 28 pages.

DA12 $8.95

**NOTE:** See also the "Child-size Masterpieces" art postcard curriculum on page 51, and "Famous Artists as Children" biographies on page 45.
If men had used only speech to communicate their thought, if their wisdom had been expressed in words alone, no traces would remain of past generations. It is thanks to the hand, the companion of the mind, that civilization has arisen. The hand has been the organ of this great gift that we inherit.

—Dr. Maria Montessori

The study of math and geometry as symbols on paper arose from a very real and sensorial base. Removed from real objects these studies become dry and meaningless. Children naturally have an interest in all aspects of mathematics, weight, order, systems, series, time, quantities and symbols, and so forth. We can serve the development of the mathematical mind by feeding this interest, giving sensorial experiences first, and only then their representatives on paper.

GEOMETRY BLOCKS
In our home we once had these on the dining room table for weeks. Everyone who came in to the house, children and adults alike, sat down and started making designs, some vertical and some horizontal. This is a wonderful exploration of the geometric patterns that can be made with different shapes. There are 150 smooth wooden pieces: yellow hexagons, orange squares, green triangles, red trapezoids, blue parallelograms, and natural wood rhombi.

ROMAN ARCH
One of the most amazing architectural and physical principles invented by humans is the arch. The first arches were probably built by the early Assyrians and Babylonians, many years before the rise of the Roman Empire. The Egyptians used the arch, but only in utilitarian structures, such as grain sheds, and the Romans used them to build bridges, aqueducts, and in other large scale architecture. This hardwood arch contains 76 blocks and 6 models of the special pieces which form the temporary support while the arch is built. It comes with an excellent history and instruction booklet. Age 5+.

GEOMETRIC SOLIDS
These solid hardwood introductions to solid geometry give a child a chance to explore properties and learn the names of common solid figures. There are six pieces: pyramid, cylinder, cube, sphere, triangular prism, and cone. The cone is 3" tall.

TANGOEES
Based on a 4,000-year-old Chinese puzzle, there are hundreds of designs which can be made from these seven pieces. Game cards are inspiring and develop problem-solving and thinking skills, but children can also explore geometry and make up their own. 27 cards, seven tangram pieces, packed in a 6.5" x 3" plastic case, excellent as a take-along, travel game. Age 5+

FROEBEL GIFTS, CLASSIC SET
Our classic set of Froebel Gifts 2-6 are packaged in finely-crafted, slide-top boxes. The five gifts, each in their own cherry box, are all stored in one large box with the instructional booklet.

In 1832, Friedrich Froebel ("froy'bel") invented kindergarten — the concept that children should be nurtured like new sprouts. His teaching materials, or gifts, are basic geometric forms, which act as symbolic building blocks of the universe. They are carefully chosen to allow children to discover properties of geometry and design through play. Frank Lloyd Wright, Piet Mondrian, Wassily Kandinsky, and Buckminster Fuller used this system.

Gifts 2-6 are known as the building gifts. They are made from hard maple, each gift introducing a new shape and a host of new mathematical and architectural possibilities. Age 3 and up. The large box containing gifts 2-6 is 9.25" x 9.25" x 2.25."
Sometimes people think there is something magic about sensorial math materials. Yes, the materials are certainly ingenious, but the real value of manipulatives is that they support the natural love of math concepts and activities that occurs early in life. These activities include: counting, sorting, classifying objects, experiences with series of sizes and colors, weighing and measuring, carrying out housework such as dish washing, with many sequential, logical steps—these are activities that nourish the mathematical mind.

**Combining math and artistic design.**

**FROEBEL GIFTS**

**CARDBOARD BOXES**

This is exactly the same as the classic set except all the maple gift pieces are packaged in cardboard boxes. And the large box that holds all 2-6 gifts is also cardboard. The same instruction book is included and all of the wooden pieces are the same.

(*) DV073 Gift #7 - Cardboard Box $130.00

**FROEBEL GIFT #7 - PARQUETRY TABLETS**

Gift number seven contains 172 1-2" colorful cardboard pieces and an instruction booklet. The shapes are: squares, right isosceles triangles, obtuse isosceles triangles, equilateral triangles, scalene triangles, circles, half circles. This gift enables the child who has experienced the 3-dimensional forms in gifts 2-6 to begin to express them in 2 dimensions—a step toward the abstraction of forms. The set comes in either a sectioned wood box or a lovely cardboard box.

(*) DV074 Gift #7 - Wood Box $40.00
(*) DV075 Gift #7 - Cardboard Box $60.00

**FROEBEL GIFT #8 - STICKS AND RINGS**

**FROEBEL GIFT #9 - POINTS**

These two gifts take the child through the logical progression from solids and surfaces, to lines and then points. Gift 8 contains 144 sticks and rings and instructions. Gift 9 contains 64 wooden dots in each of 9 colors and directions. Both come in either a sectioned wooden box, or a lovely sectioned cardboard box.

(*) DV076 Gift #8 - Wood Box $70.00
(*) DV077 Gift #8 - Cardboard Box $60.00
(*) DV078 Gift #9 - Wood Box $60.00
(*) DV079 Gift #9 - Cardboard Box $26.00

**NUMBER PUZZLE 1-10**

When the child is learning to count quantities from 1 to 10, we introduce the symbols for these. Aside from using this as a simple puzzle, the child can lay out the numbers pieces and then, beside or beneath them, the exact quantities of buttons, shells, rocks, beans, or anything else she chooses. This gives the important point that "5" for example, refers to "5" of anything. Beneath each number is the word written in English and Spanish, and a quantity of dots matching the number. The puzzle is 15" x 8.5", of natural hardwood, with painted numbers.

DV033 $70.00

**DOMINOES**

Dominoes has probably taught more children about numbers, with more enjoyment, than any other method throughout history. A physics principle is introduced as children stand all of the dominoes is on end, and push over the first one creating the "domino effect." The double sixes set contains 28 dominoes, and the double nines contains 56. The dominoes are made of white ivory-like acrylic, and they come in a wooden box with a metal clasp, which helps the child form the habit of putting away work in an orderly fashion.


DV320 Double Sixes $15.00
DV325 Double Nines $24.75
DV328 Dominoes Book $6.95
Many people misunderstand, at first, what it means to learn math at this age. They remember how they learned the multiplication tables for example—tedious and boring, hours of painful repetition that was certainly not the first choice of activities.

In the 3-6 class, children love to learn the quantities and symbols for numbers in the thousands. They often learn addition, subtraction, multiplication and division with the decimal system and with fractions, all simultaneously.

None of this work is required of the children, but it is offered, presented with manipulative materials to one child at a time—by the adult and sometimes another child. There are no teachers lecturing to a group of children who are required to sit still and listen. The children choose this work, and repeat each step with joy and enthusiasm until they are ready to move on to the next step.

Certainly not every child masters or even works with every piece of math material in the 3-6 class. The main point is that an enjoyable and interesting introduction to all of the areas of geometry and math are present in the environment. The child is introduced to each activity as she is ready, and given the choice of whether or not to continue to work with it. In the meantime, she is surrounded by other children joyfully exploring math. Math and geometry are presented and treated in the same way as art, building with blocks, music, gardening, and all other subjects.

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**ANNO'S COUNTING BOOK**

"One of the few truly intelligent counting books ever produced—and a work of art besides. Anno's village is alive in his lovely watercolor paintings, and every child will be subtly, irresistibly pulled in, counting trees and trucks, flowers and fish, ducks and diapers." —*The New York Times.* Need we say more? Softcover, 10" x 9.5," color, 27 pages.

DV039 $6.95

**MAGNETIC MATH BOARD**

With these 199 magnetic math parts and the metal board on which they can be arranged, the child can sensorially explore such math concepts as numbers up to 100, odd and even numbers, number patterns, place value (units, tens, hundreds, basic addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, and comparing and naming fractions. The board is 9" x 12," and 8 pages of instructions are included.

DV551 $15.50

**COUNT YOUR WAY AROUND THE WORLD**

Each of these multicultural math books gives an introduction to the art, history, geography, math and traditions of a country of the world. Each page presents one number, the pronunciation and a picture of cultural objects to be counted. Softcover, 7.5" x 9," color, 24 pages.

DV12 Africa (Swahili) $5.95
DV14 Canada (French) $5.95
DV15 China (Chinese) $5.95
DV16 Germany (German) $5.95
DV17 India (Hindi) $5.95
DV20 Japan (Japanese) $5.95
DV22 Mexico (Spanish) $5.95
DV225 Count Your Way, Set/7 $40.00

**MULTIPLICATION TAPE**

One of the many ways children learn is through the use of what is known as the "musical intelligence." For this learning style the old-fashioned method of singing the multiplication tables works very well. Cassette tape.

DV10 $9.95

**HOW MUCH IS A MILLION?**

A fun and awe-inspiring book which really gives us the idea of how large numbers are—a million is much different from a ten, even though they look similar written on a piece of paper. There are excellent, demonstrative and outrageous examples, with drawings that really make the point, such as: a goldfish bowl big enough for a million goldfish would be large enough to hold a whale. The calculations are explained in the back of the book for the adult or older child. Softcover, 8.5" x 11," color, 36 pages.

DV25 $4.95

**DV039** $6.95
different and wonderful introduction to a subject detested and feared by many of us.

A child who is allowed to explore with real mathematical objects at an early, motor-sensorial age stands a good chance becoming a real math lover later in life. If his passions lie elsewhere, at least he will be exempt from the math phobia which so many of us experience because of our own less-than-joyful introductions to this area of learning.

Math and geometry materials do not have to be expensive; they can be made of cardboard cubes, strings of beads, blocks, beans, anything that helps the child grasp the concept through her senses.

There are many ways to give a child a good sensorial grounding in math and geometry. The book Family Math (See page 95.) is a good overview for parents, which shows how easily an early interest in math can be fostered with materials found at home.

**STAFFORDSHIRE BRASS SCALE**
This beautiful, brass and dark green, professional balance scale has been manufactured in England since 1875.

The balance has been finely calibrated and hand finished to weigh correctly with the brass pan supplied. The assembled scale is 11" in length, and the length of the brass pan is 9."

A matching set of imperial brass weights contain 7 pieces, from 1/4 ounce to 1 pound. The heaviest is 3.75" tall.

(*) DV063  $115.00

**MAGNETIC CALENDAR**
A wooden magnetic calendar that allows the parents and child, or teacher and children, to recreate each month easily, over and over. Or to record the weather, with the "sunny day" or "cloudy day" magnetic pieces. We have never seen a calendar easier to work with or more fun. The pictures calendar is 16" x 11.5," and there is another board that is hinged to hang below this one where all the dates and special pieces are stored. 2-part calendar and over 120 colorful numbers and pieces.

(*) DV282  $21.00

**BRASS 3-MINUTE TIMER**
The small 3-minute timer can help a child brush her teeth for three minutes (instead of five seconds). Children love to see how long it takes them to make the bed, pick up the blocks, run a race. Solid brass, a little over 3" tall, filled with white sand.

DV056  $8.50

**SCALE**
Weights and measures are an important part of the child's math development. With this scale, which teaches both systems of weight—pounds and kilograms—from the very beginning, a child's awareness of the baric sense is awakened as she weighs many objects in the classroom or home environment. It weighs objects up to 22 pounds, is made of white durable plastic, with a detachable metal tray. 6" tall, tray 10" x 7."

DV330  $22.00

**TEACHING CLOCK**
The main problem children have in learning to tell time is the relationship between the movement of the minute and hour hands—one making a complete rotation during the period of time that the other makes twelve rotations! For over fifty years this teaching clock has made learning to tell time simple for children. The visible functioning gears maintain correct hour hand and minute hand relationships. The permanently assembled wooden clock is 12.2" x 13.5." Metal stands and teaching guide included.

DV340  $25.00

**OLD WORLD PERPETUAL CALENDAR**
A daily experience in an ancient, and still valid, method of recording the day of the month is offered the child with this lovely brass perpetual calendar. It is good for every month of every year—forever. The days of the month are numbered in Arabic numbers in a circle. The months are numbered at the bottom in Roman numerals (I-XII), and there are two small brass pegs to mark the date. This brass replica of an ancient calendar can add a touch of history to the classroom, and also give practice in reading the Roman numerals to twelve. The calendar is 5.5" tall.

EM04  $15.00

(*) = new item
AGE 6-12

INTRODUCTION

EDUCATION FOR AGES 6-12

At six, there is a great transformation in the child, like a new birth. The child is no longer interested only in himself and his family members but wants to explore society and the world, to learn what is right and wrong, and to explore meaningful roles in society. Although the passing on of the family values and culture began at birth, it is very important during the years from six to twelve—the curious years—that we avoid no topics of conversation, such as sex and drug abuse. We do not want them to learn about these things from soap operas, TV talk shows, the Internet, and misinformed peers.

The child of this age wants to know how everything came to be, the history of the universe, the world, humans and why they behave the way they do. We give him research tools and send him out into the community with purpose. He wants to be important, to learn to direct his own life and learning. Given freedom and trust, he will explore, learn, and create in directions we could not have predicted, and accomplish amounts of work we would never have demanded.

The curriculum, for all six years, is built around the five great lessons given at the beginning of each year: creation of earth, coming of plants and animals, the arrival of humans, language, math and invention. The teacher designs each lesson using stories, music, impressionistic charts, experiments, and games. The idea is always to inspire.

These five beginning lessons grow to include such topics as algebra, square and cube roots, geometry, botany and zoology, evolution and classification, chemistry and physics experiments, the history of math and language, grammar and sentence analysis, and so on. The child learns to love these studies because the academic work is continually adapted to the interests of the child; the child comes first, not the curriculum.

**SCIENCE ENCYCLOPEDIA**

Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Science

If you only choose one science book for your home or school, we recommend this one. It contains up-to-date information and excellent illustrations in the following areas of science: timelines of the discovery of matter, energy, and the evolution of earth and living things, and complete sections on astronomy, physics, chemistry, geology, botany, zoology, and ecology.

Science Encyclopedia is written by an impressive team of specialists, science writers, and educational consultants. This amazing book includes more than 100 biographies of scientists and inventors, more than 2,500 full-color photos and illustrations, and more than 280 key entries and 18,000 subentries. Inspiring to adults and children. Hardcover, 8 1/2" x 11," color, 448 pages.

**ILLUSTRATED FACT FINDER**

This fascinating book touches on every aspect of the elementary curriculum—an overview first, then a filling in of details. The history "overview" begins 4.5 billion years ago, and makes its way, on lavishly illustrated pages, through the periods of cave dwellers, other ancient civilizations, including Egypt, India and China, to the industrial revolution, and human rights today.

Other subjects introduced in the same excellent manner include geography, language and literature, mathematics, computers, physical science, natural science, English grammar and arithmetic. Pictures help a child to understand and memorize more easily; diagrams replace long explanations; drawings let him imagine specific scenes, and maps provide useful data. Parents and teachers enjoy this book as much as children. The illustrations and clear and simple text will lead one easily from one subject to another, to discover areas of learning that he might otherwise have avoided. A very good reference book for the home or school. Softcover, 7" x 10," color, 343 pages.

**A CELEBRATION OF CUSTOMS & RITUALS OF THE WORLD**

This book pulls together, with interesting text and beautiful artwork, a colorful pageant of different ceremonies as people the world over gather together to participate in some of the most meaningful events in their lives—childbirth, coming of age, marriage, death, eating and drinking, healing, initiation, worship, art, and more.

It is through these rituals that our children learn to value their own culture and the cultures of others. In this way we help our children pass their culture on to future generations. Hardcover, 12" x 9.5," color, 218 pages.
Elementary children can work together to do research, plan and execute projects, and to share them with other members of the class who are interested. They learn to work in multi-age and multi-ability groups, making use of the interests and abilities of all. This is excellent preparation for adult life in a peaceful society.

From the teachers' example, the child learns how to teach. This facilitates social development, creativity, and independent thinking. Most important an environment is provided in which the work and concentration of the individual child is respected.

Except for a state required curriculum, which takes very little time when children are working at their own pace, lessons in the elementary class are offered, not required. Children learn to plan and to be responsible for their own education. There are certain ages when we have found that children are often interested in a given subject, but the wise adult follows the child, knowing that the human mind works on its own, guided by a power within.

COOPERATION & PEACE
Socialization is at least as important at this level as academic studies. What good is knowledge if not tempered with consideration for others? Peace is not studied as in independent subject, but is part of the daily functioning of the classroom, and the natural outcome of and educational method where children are happy with the way they are learning. They learn that peace is not just the absence of war, but the way we treat each other in our daily lives, the way we communicate, and the way we solve problems. Peace begins inside us, at home, at school. Besides setting examples we can give children ways to practice functioning peacefully by means of manners and community service.

The child of age six to twelve is intensely interested in fairness, and in all kinds of interactions in his group. Because of this cooperative games provide an important alternative to the feeling of pitting people against each other which is found in many education systems and in sports and games. They provide practice in working together and in solving problems for the good of all.

The acts of courtesy which he has been taught with a view to his making contacts with others must now be brought to a new level. The question of aid to the weak, to the aged, to the sick, for example, now arises. If, up to the present, it was important not to bump someone in passing, it is now considered more important not to offend that person.

While the younger child seeks comforts, the older child is now eager to encounter challenges. But these challenges must have an aim.

The passage to the second level of education (age 6-12) is the passage from the sensorial, material level to the abstract. A turning toward the intellectual and moral sides of life occurs at the age of seven.

—Maria Montessori
This break has lasted till today.

There is now a movement to bring the spiritual view of life and sciences back together. We can help by giving lessons that show the child that:

1. All of the rules of physics and chemistry (e.g. gravity) follow an order dictated by God, or a creative force.
2. Each element, from the tiniest atom to the human being, has an important role to play, a Cosmic Task, in this scheme of life.

As in all areas of this elementary curriculum Earth Sciences—physics, chemistry, etc., begin with the overview and progress to the details. The child learns the functioning of the galaxies, the universe, then solar systems, the formation of Earth, seasons, natural wonders, the weather, the rocks and
minerals, etc. As he learns about the discovery of these things in the past he participates in this discovery by means of experiments in all areas.

Beginning at age six, physics, chemistry, and geography, and so on are introduced and they continue until the end of the elementary class at age twelve.

Each year the child sees more interrelationships between these areas because lessons and experiments are going on all the time at all levels. Older children often come to lessons given to the younger children, and younger children are welcome at lessons given to their elders.

Because the child at this age is very interested in using his imagination, we also give him the mythology of the world by which humans have explained natural laws. He develops language skills by the study and written expression of this work, and math and geometry come alive as tools to measure these discoveries.

The teacher does not require specific work, but guides the children as individuals or self-formed small groups in doing research following their own interests, and in creating and finishing research projects and in finding a way to...
express them. The teacher gives the basic lessons over and over, but never knows where this research will go each year, with each individual child, and each group of children. This is as exciting for the teacher as for the children.

**LAB MANUALS**

Children can develop personal lab manuals, sometimes drawn, sometimes written beginning at age six and continuing through the years. The scientific method of recording experiments follows the traditional format, the children selecting an experiment, gathering the materials, following the steps to test the hypothesis, and observing, and sometimes recording the results and explanation.

**TIMELINES**

Timelines are used in all areas of the elementary curriculum. For an interesting timeline, make a long strip of cloth or paper, marking the years in the billions, millions, thousands—like the markings on a ruler—from the beginning of earth's creation to the present.

Next figure out how long there have been plants and animals and color this part of the timeline a different color.
Now mark, with another color, the length of time humans have been here. This is a powerful image for children, or adults.

Timelines can be made for all different subjects, tracing the history of the natural and other philosophers, the development of mapping the world, the discovery of elements, and so forth. Models, plays enacting historical dramas such as the measurement of the earth, songs, artwork, giant math problems, all of the curriculum is interwoven with the study of the history of the earth.

The most important point is that the child realizes that he or she has an important part to play in this picture.

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**EARTH'S TREASURES**

This is a beautiful collection containing sixteen large (1-2 inches) specimens of minerals, rocks and gems, each in its own bag with an information card. Specimens often included are obsidian, pumice, quartz, red sandstone, lodestone (nature’s first magnet), basalt, sulfur and pyrite.

**MOH'S HARDNESS SCALE**

Children love collecting rocks, sorting them by color, texture, or by the places where they were found. Finally they want to discover the atomic structure and crystals. Determining the hardness of a mineral can be an important step toward its identification. Friedrich Moh made up a scale over a century ago to do this. Here are samples of 9 minerals, glued to the correct place on the hardness scale which is printed on paper. The hardest mineral, diamond, is not included.

**ROCK CARD**

**IGNEOUS, SEDIMENTARY, METAMORPHIC**

For young children, collecting rocks and minerals is important just for an introduction to the beauty and variety of earth. At this age however, rock collecting begins to be connected to the creation of the earth. This collection of 18 mounted rocks is divided into Igneous, Sedimentary and Metamorphic categories. Children love to learn these large, scientific words, no explanations of the meanings necessary at the beginning, but gradually the whole picture of the history of the earth will be made clear.

**SCIENTISTS CARDB GAME**

These cards introduce children to the philosopher-scientists of the past, and their discoveries.

Includes Aristotle, Galileo, Newton, da Vinci, Kepler, Copernicus, Dalton, Darwin, Mendel, Fermi, Pasteur, Curie, and Einstein. Children can use these to create timelines of the past. 52 cards, color.

**PERIODIC TABLE OF THE ELEMENTS POSTER**

Solids, liquids and gases are color coded. There are also pictures and brief biographies of seven scientists largely responsible for what we know in this subject today. For the Montessori elementary class one could make timeline cards of these biographies, or a blank chart for the child to construct his own periodic table. 27” x 38”, color.

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**PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY EXPERIMENT BOOKS**

These "... for Every Kid" books by VanCleave introduce experiments in physics and chemistry with everyday materials, and in a way that is scientific and written with the perspective of the child in mind.

Each experiment lists: purpose, materials, procedure, results. The children gather the materials, carry out the experiment, and, if they want to and are able, write it up and illustrate it. Softcover, 6” x 9,” black and white line drawings, around 200 pages.

**PERIODIC TABLE OF THE ELEMENTS POSTER**

CHILD of the WORLD, Michael Olaf’s Essential Montessori for ages 3-12+, 2000-2001

(*) = new item
PLANTS & ANIMALS

How often is the soul of man, especially that of the child, deprived because one does not put him in contact with nature.

There is no description, no image in any book that is capable of replacing the sight of real trees, and all the life to be found around them, in a real forest.

Something emanates from those trees which speaks to the soul, something no book, no museum is capable of giving. The wood reveals that it is not only the trees that exist, but a whole, interrelated collection of lives. And this earth, this climate, this cosmic power are necessary for the development of all these lives. The myriad lives around the trees, the majesty, the variety are things one must hunt for, and which no one can bring into the school.

—Maria Montessori

BIOLOGY FOR EVERY KID

This is an extremely valuable biology book because of the experiments and the active, rather than passive, learning. Children learn and retain to a much greater extent when they gather materials, carry out experiments, record results. And they learn to love that which they understand.

For each experiment the scientific method is used—the purpose is clearly stated, materials listed, procedure outlined step-by-step, and results given. Then there is a why section that explains in clear scientific words exactly what has happened. There are black and white drawings to illustrate each experiment.

I recommend that children learn to write up the experiment using this format, with drawings, putting the conclusion in their own words as much as possible. Examples of activities include experiments in the world of plants, the animal kingdom, and the amazing human body.

$11.95

PLANT STORIES

Nineteen plants are described and illustrated, one page per plant, in a 6-ring mini-binder. A set of 3-part cards, exactly matching the chart is based on the most recent classification systems are always being revised to reflect current scientific knowledge as new species are discovered, and this chart is based on the most recent system. 27 organisms are illustrated. The child begins to classify by laying out the 27 cards just like the chart layout, then checking with the chart. Size: 18" x 32", white flexible vinyl. Age 9+ after experience with real plants and animals.

$35.00

THE VISUAL DICTIONARY OF PLANTS

This botany book goes into detail with names and the work is connected with the functions of the parts—for example the detailed workings of the stem of a plant. It clearly illustrates the simple classifications, such as parts of a flower, and goes on to teach about the functions and fine details of a flower. Whether or not your child is working with a microscope, this book will aid the discovery of the fine details in the botany world. Chapters include: fungi, mosses and ferns, monocotyledons and dicotyledons, flowering plants, roots, stems, leaves, photosynthesis, flowers, pollination, succulent and dry fruits, and plant classification, and several more subjects. Hardcover, 10" x 12," color, 64 pages.

$18.95

PLANT KINGDOM CHART

This chart classifies the plant kingdom in a straightforward manner. 18 plants in 9 categories are illustrated. The child studies the chart, lays out the 9 labels and 18 picture cards on a table or floor mat across the room, or somewhere far away from the chart for the best memory practice then checks her layout with the chart.

$32.00

FIVE KINGDOMS CHARTS

This chart classifies life on earth into five kingdoms: prokaryote, protist, fungi, plant, animal. Classification systems are always being revised to reflect current scientific knowledge as new species are discovered, and this chart is based on the most recent system. 27 organisms are illustrated. The child begins to classify by laying out the 27 cards just like the chart layout, then checking with the chart. Size: 18" x 32," white flexible vinyl. Age 9+ after experience with real plants and animals.

$21.00

EPO1

$11.95

EPO2

$18.95

(*) EP275

$21.00

(*) EP190

$32.00

(*) EP270

$35.00

USA Toll Free ORDER Number 888.880.9235
AGE 6-12 PLANTS & ANIMALS

In the elementary class, for children from age six to twelve, the study of biology has three main focuses:
(1) experiments and observation of plants and animals to discover their needs and the amazing variety of each;
(2) evolution of plants and animals;
(3) classification of plants and animals.

At the beginning of each year the teacher inspires children to carry out research in these areas by telling stories, and presenting beautiful books, posters, charts, and timelines. Then each child begins a personal journey of discovery, joining others for research projects and presentations. Every year is unpredictable, not even the teacher knowing what will be covered, as the rule is to "follow the child."

**BOTANY CLASSIFICATION KEYS**

Around the age of ten or eleven a child often wants to be able to use the concepts she has learned about plants to do her own classification. These little books provide a quick and logical path to locating these relationships and to classifying according to common and visible traits. Take a book in one hand and a flower in the other, and within a few turns of pages you will solve the puzzle and find the flower. We highly recommend that the adult spend some time on her own learning how to do this before showing the method to the child. There are three booklets, Flower Finder, and Tree Finder, for eastern states, and Pacific Tree Finder for western states. Softcover, 6" x 4." 60 pages.

- **EP074 Flower Finder** $3.00
- **EP076 Tree Finder (Midwest/East)** $3.00
- **EP072 Pacific Tree Finder** $3.00

**NEW PRONOUNCING DICTIONARY OF PLANT NAMES**

This little booklet will prove valuable for teachers, parents, and students. Its 62 pages of the correct and easy to read pronunciation of plant names and botanical terms, with brief definition, will remove our hesitancy to use the scientific names of plant specimens. Softcover, 4" x 5.5." (*)

- **EP287** $6.00

**DICTIONARY OF WORD ROOTS AND COMBINING FORMS**

...compiles from the Greek, Latin, and other languages, with special reference to biological terms and scientific names. Another important tool in the understanding of biology and the etymology of language in general. Softcover, 5" x 7," 135 pages.

- **EP281** $10.00

**THE GREAT BOOK OF ANIMALS**

This comprehensive illustrated guide to 750 species and their environments has been around for many years but is difficult to find these days. It is the single best animal book for use by children and adults, because it interests and entertains as it instructs. It was first published by Padua University in Italy and has been translated into many languages. It is packed full of color illustrations of animals, classified by, and presented in order of, phylum, class, order, family, genus, and species. Hardcover, 11" x 12.5," color, 389 pages.

- **EP050** $35.00

**THE VISUAL DICTIONARY OF ANIMALS**

This book is a companion volume of The Visual Dictionary of Plants. It shows the internal anatomy of several species of animals each simply drawn and attractively colored and labeled. It also shows the labeled external parts and several colored photos of each which are very lifelike. If a child is interested in animal dissection, be sure to find animals which have died a natural death. And to have a burial when you finish. Examples: butterfly, bee, earthworm, dogfish, starfish, sea urchin, jellyfish, sea anemone, octopus, snail, crayfish, frog, lizard, turtle, bird, cat, rabbit, elephant, chimpanzee, dolphin.

There is a clear illustration of Kingdom Animalia in the back. Hardcover, 10" x 12," color, 59 pages.

- **EP04** $18.95

**ANIMALS ON THE INSIDE**

As the elementary child's imagination takes hold, she wants to know the insides and the functions of animals just as much as the workings of the universe. Does an ant have a heart? Where is a shark's nose? Find out how insects, fish and other sea creatures, birds, and mammals digest, breathe, see, hear, smell, and have babies. Revealing, fabulous full-color illustrations of the insides of a wide range of animals—each with body parts clearly labeled and explained—show the inner workings of animals as we have never seen them before. Softcover, 11" x 9," color, 91 pages.

- **EP18** $11.95

**WHO EATS WHAT? FOOD CHAINS & FOOD WEBS**

This early reader presents the very important information about food chains in a way that makes it clear to children. We are part of this food chain that begins with green plants, and each link is important, because every living thing depends on others for survival. Softcover, color, 10 x 8", 32 pages.

- **EP250** $4.95

(*) = new items
can find a little light, moisture and nourishment. This close hand experience makes children appreciative and protective of all of life.

**ADAPTATION & CHANGES OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS**

The experiments and observation lead to research which helps the child travel, through his tremendous imagination back through time to the very beginning of life, to discover the miracle of variety and the transformation of plants and animals through time.

**CLASSIFICATION OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS**

The discovery of the multitude of kinds of plants and animals helps children understand why there must be a system of sorting and naming them—this is biological classification.

Children want to know how and why plants and animals have been classified and how the systems of classification change as we learn more about biology. This work links biology to logic, math and language, English and Latin.

When subjects flow into each other like this, a child following an interest, the

**HUMAN ANATOMY BOOKS**

Seymour Simon is the author of over 100 award-winning science books for children. He knows that the secret to interest children is captivation by spectacular color photographs—taken by amazing new scanners which change X-ray photos into computer code to make clear, colorful graphics.

Children exposed to these pictures and this simple and correct information have a real head start in the important task of understanding our human bodies. Hardcover, 10" x 10," color, 26 pages.

- **EP260 Bones** $16.00
- **EP261 Brain** $16.00
- **EP262 Heart** $16.00
- **EP263 Muscles** $16.00
- **EP264 Set/4** $62.00

**BODY SYSTEMS**

Twenty-nine 2-color body system cards, 3.5" x 6.5," 7 labels, and four 8.5" x 11" full sheets of the body card for reproducing. These help teach the names and location of the parts of the body systems: nervous, locomotor, respiratory, circulatory, digestive, urinary, and endocrine.

**EP268** $20.00

**ANIMAL KINGDOM CHARTS AND CARDS**

This chart classifies 42 animals into 11 major phyla. The child studies the chart, then lays out the 42 cards and 11 labels on a table or floor mat, then matches the layout with the chart to see if he has done it correctly. The older child can focus on the characteristics of the phyla, using the phylum description cards. The chart is printed on flexible vinyl in shades of red and brown. Size: 18" x 32." Age 9+, after experiencing and studying real animals.

(*) **EP290** $35.00

**ANIMAL STORIES**

Forty-two animals are illustrated and described in this set of 3-part cards, and control cards. Children practice reading and learning the characteristics of 11 major phyla. The control cards are held in two red, 6-ring mini-binders. Binder 7" x 4.5."

(*) **EP295** $42.00

**LATIN NAMES EXPLAINED**

*A GUIDE TO THE SCIENTIFIC CLASSIFICATION OF REPTILES, BIRDS, AND MAMMALS*

The history of languages and of plant and animal classification—standard work in the Montessori elementary class—is greatly aided by this new book. It is a combination of etymology, Latin, and biology.

Children are very interested in how and why scientific names were given to animals—names of the person who made the discovery of the species are especially interesting, and children are inspired to rename many things in the environment (after themselves usually) when they get interested in etymology, and Latin—a knowledge of which, studies prove, raised the student's test scores in both literary and math areas. A wealth of research in one volume.

Hardcover, 9.5" x 6," 712 pages.

EP240 $55.00

**SOMEBOY**

This is an old favorite anatomy game for children from 6 and up, 1-4 players. There are four game boards of the body outline, 3 sheets of reusable, stick-on, body parts (shown), and 100 game cards giving interesting and sometimes funny directions like "Put your ear to a friend's stomach. Describe all the noises you hear." There are five levels of games.

(*) **EP200** $20.00
knowledge is in a sense recreated by the child and becomes a part of his long term memory, instead of a subject to be memorized, tested on and forgotten. Biology often becomes a lifelong interest for these children.

**BODIES**

The child from birth on is constantly learning about bodies, from the way

handle an infant, the way we respect and care for the growing child's body, and from the way we feed and care for our own bodies, even the way we treat our spouse.

A natural and healthy attitude develops about bodies and sex if these topics are part of the daily conversation at home and at school. Otherwise a child is put into the position of learning about these things from the media or from other questionable sources as a teenager.

Caring for our bodies and learning to respect the bodies of other people, sex, love, relationships, families—what could be more important information for us to pass on correctly to our children during these curious years from age six to twelve.

**HUMAN ANATOMY COLORING BOOK**

In our family we colored pages following an experience—for example the foot bones were colored when a friend broke his foot. This simple book can help lay the foundation for more rigorous studies of anatomy in later years. Softcover, 8.5" x 11", 43 pages.

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**BATTLE OF THE SEXES**

It is interesting, and unhealthy, that in the USA we shelter children from sex, which is natural and healthy, and expose them to violence from a very young age. It is just the opposite in some countries.

In this book representatives of the entire animal kingdom are brought together to tell astonishing tales of how they accomplish reproduction of their kind, leaving nothing out. The book was written to accompany a Discovery Channel television production. Older children and adults will gain a new perspective, and a certain awe, about sex in the animal world.

We were not sure about carrying this book. We consider this a good, honest beginning for parents and teachers to read first and to share when a child begins to ask questions. Hardcover, 10" x 7.5", color, 218 pages. For ages 12 to adult.

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**LIFE STORY**

The format of this favorite book is a play in five acts:

- Paleozoic,
- Mesozoic,
- Cenozoic,
- Recent and Most Recent Life, with a prologue: The formation of the Earth. There are “leading plants” and “leading animals” (appearing in the play in the order of their appearance on earth).

The play is narrated by a geologist, a grandmother, a paleontologist, a historian and the author, Virginia Lee Burton, who attended a Montessori school as a child. She tells this story with a sense of humor which is very appealing to children and adults alike. Softcover, 9" x 10," color, 70 pages.

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**FOSSIL COLLECTION**

This fossil collection contains one of each of twelve 1-2 inch fossils, including trilobite, dinosaur bone, fossil shark tooth and petrified wood, each in its own plastic bag with a card of information.

Pairs of fossils from two collections are fun and challenging to match as no two will be exactly alike. Older children enjoy putting the fossils on the correct part of the Evolution Time Line which is the main chart for the Second Great Lesson (the Coming of Plants and Animals) in the 6-12 class.

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**ATLAS OF THE PREHISTORIC WORLD**

These dazzling maps and illustrations dramatically unveil the Earth’s major transformation both geologic and biologic, from the origins of life 620 million years ago up to the last ice age and the dawn of humankind.

Excellent coverage of the continent transformations and ice ages.

Like a time machine this book transports us to the past and examines the forces that will create the future. Field trips and related websites are listed. This is the most up-to-date and important book of its kind published today.

Hardcover, 9.5" x 11.5," full color, 222 pages.

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**PREHISTORY TIMELINE**

600 Million Years of Life on Earth. This is a six-foot long, thirteen inch high, black and white timeline representing the history of aquatic and terrestrial life from the Cambrian Period to the present. 207 different life forms (including plants) are drawn and numbered so that the names and definitions can be found on the accompanying literature.

The timeline comes with a description of the periods, and suggested activities in language, social science and math. Accordion folded.

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(*) = new items
Today those things which occupy us in the field of education, are the interests of humanity at large and of civilization. Before such great forces we can recognize only one country—the entire world.

—Dr. Montessori

**GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, BIOGRAPHY**

This girl in Taiwan has made tea and is serving it to her friends.

**GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, & BIOGRAPHY**

Geography, history, and biography—the history of a people cannot be separated from the possibilities of the environment in which it develops, and the leadership of its great men and women.

In the beginning of each year the children are introduced to the study of humankind with stories, beautiful

**WORKING MAPS**

This great new invention gives the child the opportunity to work on a map, writing the names of countries, capitals, rivers, oceans, mountains, and to check his work against the labeled map which is included in the set. The two maps match completely in size and color, only one is labeled and one is blank.

The blank map is laminated on both sides and easy to use again and again with all erasable markers. It can be used, for example, to follow someone on a trip.

This working map comes with an erasable marker and replacements are easily found at an office supply store. The map was created using satellite-assisted cartography, and portrays the Atlantic-centered projection. 28" x 17.5.”

**MAPS AND MAPPING**

Here are geography facts and experiments and projects that involve a child in the discovery of maps and mapping—drawing a plan of the child’s room, designing one’s own secret map of treasure island, making a compass. Each basic geography concept—scales, symbols and colors, heights and slopes, contour lines, measuring angles, latitude and longitude, map projections—is presented as a project for the child to carry out, the most successful way to learn. Softcover, 8.5” x 9.5,” color, 32 pages.

**COMPARATIVE WORLD ATLAS**

This elementary classroom atlas contains many of the comparative studies of the world undertaken at this age: atmosphere and oceans, climate, vegetation and soils, environmental concerns, population, languages, religions, standard of living, global politics, and so on. Also clear physical and political maps of the world and the continents. Hardcover, color, 9.5” x 12.5,” 96 pages.

**HAMMOND CONCISE CENTENNIAL WORLD ATLAS**

A good world atlas is the most used book, next to the dictionary, in our home. This is one of the best family or school atlases. It contains over 200 pages of up-to-date, computer generated maps of the world, and an ease for finding one’s way around the globe that invites children as well as adults to look things up regularly. Includes time zones, world statistics, climates, agriculture and manufacturing, population maps, and much more. Hardcover, color, 11” x 13.5,” 230 pages.
books, maps, posters, timelines and other research inspirations.

Throughout the six years in the elementary class, the child moves from the general to the specific in the following way:

Age 6-8, the emphasis is on prehistoric life, and plants and animals.
Age 8-10, the emphasis is on early civilizations, from tribal cultures and ancient civilizations to the development of modern cities.
Age 10-12, the emphasis is on the child's national and state history.

Of course all of these studies are going on at the same time and the child is free to follow her interests, no matter what the age.

History is essentially a record of how humans fulfilled their physical, mental, and spiritual needs. These can be thought of as: (1) physical needs: food, clothing, shelter, transportation and defense, (2) mental tendencies: work, exploration, creation, communication, play, and, (3) spiritual needs: self respect or self love, love of others, creative love and the love of God.

These subjects are also experienced subjectively in the classroom. For

WHERE IN THE WORLD
There are at least six games in this box which test and refine geographical knowledge. In a simple ‘Crazy Countries’ card game (like crazy eights) children become familiar with the names of countries and the continents, and with the game called ‘Ambassador’ players begin to relate their knowledge of geography to current events. A sense of the dynamic political-economy of the world starts to develop as it relates to another geography game.

Game Contents: 6 colorful region boards: Asia, Europe, North America, South America, Africa, and Oceania; 174 Country cards indicating country name, flag, capital, population, continent in which the country can be found, literacy rate, major languages, religions and more; a category spinner—to choose “literacy rate,” “language” or another category; game pieces. Continually updated. Age seven+

HISTORICAL WORLD ATLAS
Imagine being able to turn to a map of the Middle East in 1350 B.C. to find the exact location of the Egyptian Empire and Babylonia. Then, a few pages later, the domain of Alexander the Great in 323 B.C. and the Roman Empire (which surrounded the Mediterranean Sea) in 117 A.D. This book is a welcome addition to the library of any history enthusiast at any age, and will definitely aid the child's research on the history of the world.

At the end of the book there is an 8-page presentation of the "Time Chart" sold separately in this catalogue as Timeline of Humans. (See page 77) Hardcover, 9.5" x 12.5," color, 72 pages.

PICTURES OF THE WORLD CARD GAME
BY NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
There are 25 question cards and 30 colored picture cards of famous landmarks such as the Taj Mahal, a windmill, the Giza Pyramid and Sphinx, and the Grand Canyon. There are also 25 answers, one for each question, on the back of each picture care. In the game, a child (or an adult) eventually learns 25 interesting facts about the country in which each famous landmark is located. There are rules included, but we recommend using them first as vocabulary cards, then perhaps look up the landmark on a world map. Use your imagination to fit the game to the situation.

(*) = new items
example, as the child learns about how different people obtain food, he learns to grow and prepare food. As he learns about clothing he may learn to knit or to make clothing or costumes. He studies the arts of other cultures while developing his own musical and other artistic talents. And while studying the ethics and religions of other cultures he is exploring his own relationship with friends, family and God.

This creates, not only new abilities, but an empathy with members of other cultures in the present and the past.

Those who do not remember the past are condemned to relive it.
—Santayana
Philosopher, Harvard University

AMERICAN HISTORY
American History begins with the study of those who first arrived in this country, not with the immigration of Europeans. American history is the story of the Native Americans and the people, from all over the world who have settled here.

American History Timeline: An excellent way to make this point is to

THE KINGFISHER HISTORY ENCYCLOPEDIA
From England, a true history of the whole world. For example, in describing the “Classical” period of history, it does not just cover the Greeks and Romans but says “By about 100 B.C., the ancient world was dominated by four empires. The Roman Empire was the most powerful, stretching from Europe to North Africa, In the Far East, the Han dynasty controlled almost all of what is now China, and the Middle East was ruled by the Sassanids. In India, the Gupta family held power.” This is the kind of world history coverage children need today.

Each section begins with a map of the world summarizing global events during that period. There are more than 3,500 indexed references and over 2,000 full-color illustrations. It is written in a lively style that will stimulate a child’s interest and bring history to life. Hardcover, 8” x 11,” full color, 478 pages.

(*) EH212
$37.95

100 EVENTS THAT SHAPED WORLD HISTORY
Here we find answers to many questions about the events of the past that shaped world history. Each event is organized chronologically, described, simply illustrated, and placed on the world map—all on one page. Great for creating time lines of the past. These books are as interesting to adults as to children. Softcover, 6” x 9,” 109 pages.

EH47
$7.95

WORLD BINGO
World Bingo has always been one of our favorite games and we are glad to welcome back this updated version. It is a simple, but very effective, way for adults and children to learn the features of the whole world. On each of the bingo cards there is an outline of the world map, and in each of the 25 spaces on each card, and the name of a country, land or water form, or special feature from that particular place on earth.

The 150 small cards, which are drawn individually as the game progresses, are each labeled with one of these countries or features. Just as in regular bingo, the plastic discs are placed on the bingo card if it contains the feature selected. There are 30 cardboard, 7.5” x 7,” bingo cards, so the game can be played by up to 30 players. Or each person can use more than one card. It is fun for the home, the classroom, parties, any gathering.

(*) EH233
$22.00

TIMELINE OF HUMANS
This graphic history of humankind charts the progress of humanity from the dawn of civilization to the present. Each nation or ethnic group is shown by a colored band, with dates of important events and persons. Reading downward, one may follow the rise and fall of empires, and the emergence and migrations of cultures. It is possible to pinpoint developments in all parts of the world at a particular moment in history. The relative expansion and decline of world powers is indicated by the width of columns. 30” x 19,” color.

EH01
$8.00

TURN OF THE CENTURY
A unique picture-history book created just for these special years. Each century of the second millennium is brought vividly to life by a child of the period. Intriguing facts about each era and richly detailed illustration compliment their stories. A timeline of the children is included. Hardcover, 9.5” x 12.5,” color, 26 pages.

EH110
$17.95

USA Toll Free ORDER Number 888.880.9235

BEST COPY AVAILABLE
AGE 6-12  GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, BIOGRAPHY

take a long role of adding machine paper and put the dates from, say 20,000 BC (or whenever humans arrived in North America according to the most recent archaeological findings) to the present.

Then make little cards with pictures and dates to show the relationship of events in time. Some suggestions are "crossing the Bering Straits", "Height of Aztec civilization" (and as many other Native American events as you and the children can find) "Columbus arrives", "TV was invented" and so forth. Laying the cards gives an impression or overview of American History. Use timelines for any subject.

BIography

The first "biographies" they study are their parents, their friends, and their teachers—and this begins at birth. As teenagers, our children will operate on information—about relationships, marriage, parenting, teaching, working, honesty, love, and so on—that they learned from living with us! As our children go on to learn about the great men and women of the past it is important that we remind them that these people all started out as children—

ANCIENT AMERICA

This should be considered the first United States history book, because our history did not begin with the discovery of this land mass by Europeans! Children in the USA are often taught to begin the study of history with the discovery of Christopher Columbus, or perhaps they touch on the Vikings, and mention Native Americans in passing. When in fact this country was peopled thousands of years ago by fascinating groups of people with rich cultures. It is important that children are taught the whole of the history of their country.

Maps, text and colorful illustrations all work together to provide a vivid picture of our pre-European past. The Native American groups featured range from the Inuit peoples (Eskimos) and the early peoples of present-day Canada and the US, to the highly organized civilizations of the Aztecs of Mexico and the Incas of Peru. Hardcover, 9.5" x 12," color, 92 pages.

EH32  $19.95

NATIVE AMERICANS

Many children, upon discovering the rich heritage of Native Americans, wish to go on with further research.

In this volume, the Native American groups of North America are studied in detail according to their needs and the daily life. Subjects, illustrated by beautiful, large and colorful illustrations include: The People (history, clothing, families), On the Move (transportation), Making a Living (foragers, farmers, hunters, food), Homes, Ceremonies and Rituals, and A Changing World (the arrival of the Europeans, and Native Americans today and in the future). Hardcover, 10" x 12," color, 63 pages.

EH120  $16.00

U.S.A. GEOGRAPHY GAME

This game, GeoDerby, does not test previous knowledge like most games, it teaches! Children, and adults look through the enclose map of the USA to find the answers to the game questions—this search helps one remember. The game can be played by one person alone, or up to four. There are little plastic horses who make it around a race track as the questions are answered—hence the name GeoDerby.

EH66  $21.00

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S ATLAS OF THE UNITED STATES

US citizens are notorious throughout the world for knowing nothing about their own country. This book gives our children a way to reverse this trend. It contains hundreds of full-color photographs, and interesting text, state flags, birds, flowers and trees, major cities, the people, the geography, and landscape, and of course maps. Each state's history is described along with a fact box of important information, with population, the date on which it became a state, etc. Hardcover, 11" x 14," color, 122 pages.

EH34  $23.95

CHILD of the WORLD, Michael Olaf’s Essential Montessori for ages 3-12+, 2000-2001  (*) = new items
and that the potential to be great and to contribute to the world is in all of us. Here is a quote which expresses this idea beautifully:

Each second we live is a new and unique moment in the universe - a moment that was never before and will never be again. What we teach our children in school is 2+2=4 and Paris is the capital of France. When will we teach them what they are? What we should say to them is:

Do you know what you are? You are a marvel! You are unique! In all the world there is no other child exactly like you! In the millions of years that have passed, there has never been a child exactly like you.

Look at your body, what a wonder it is! Your legs, your arms, your cunning fingers, the way you move! You may be a Shakespeare, a Michelangelo, a Beethoven… You have the capacity for anything.

Yes, you are a marvel. And when you grow up, can you then harm another who is like you a marvel?

—Pablo Casals, Cellist

THE OXFORD CHILDREN’S BOOK OF FAMOUS PEOPLE

This is another standard for the Montessori classroom, with full color pictures and interesting information. An often used reference book continuing the stories of a thousand women and men who have influenced the course of history: statespeople, religious leaders, scientists, inventors, philosophers, artists, film stars, musicians, sports heroes, and many more. There is a very useful list of people by period so we can see who was the contemporary of whom. Hardcover, color, 8” x 10”, 383 pages.

EH72 $37.50

HEROES & HEROINES

Today children need positive and inspiring role models more than ever. In these lovely hardcover books, you will find examples of men and women in different countries and different periods of history accompanied by illustrations in the artistic style of each period and place in which he/she lived, as well as maps locating and describing that world.

We think the choice of subjects is outstanding. Heroes include: Agnodice, Lady Murasaki Shikibu, Eleanor of Aquitaine, Joan of Arc, Queen Elizabeth I, Sacagawea, Harriet Tubman, Marie Curie, Anna Akhmatova, Madame Sun Yat-Sen, Amelia Earhart, Frida Kahlo. The heroes are: Socrates, Prince Taishi Shotoku, Mansa Kankan Musa, Leonardo da Vinci, William Shakespeare, Benjamin Franklin, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Sequoyah, Mohandas Gandhi, Albert Einstein, Jorge Luis Borges, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Hardcover, 9” x 10.5,” color, 79 pages.

EH780 Heroes $19.95
EH783 Heroines $19.95

EXPLORERS CARD GAME FOR TIMELINES

These cards can be used for any regular card games and for a rummy game collecting sets of cards about fifteen great explorers: Leif Ericson, Marco Polo, Alexander the Great, Columbus, Magellan, Vasco da Gama, Sir Francis Drake, Champlain, La Salle, Cook, Lewis and Clark, Stanley and Livingstone, and Robert Perry. In Montessori 6-12 classes they are laid out on a timeline to get a visual understanding of the relationship of these discoveries to each other. A rummy game of fifty-two cards, in color.

EH31 $5.50

100 WOMEN WHO SHAPED WORLD HISTORY

History is populated with tens of thousands of people who have made a significant difference, but it is still difficult sometimes to find records of the women (Maria Montessori is included here). The choice of families is very interesting—the Bach family of German musicians, the Italian scientist Bernoullis, the Brontes, the athlete DiMaggios, the Genghisid Dynasty, the Hawaiian ruling family of Kamehamehas, the Kennedys, the Romanovs, the Perons of Argentina, the acting Fonda family and many others.

The books are organized chronologically and meticulously researched. The black and white illustrations can be easily copied by children who use these books for reports or for history timelines. On each page there is one black and white drawing and the story of one great woman. Softcover, 6” x 9,” 109 pages.

EH45 100 Women $7.95
EH420 100 families $7.95

FAMILY TREE WORKBOOK

My Family Tree Workbook provides a very good outline to use in researching one’s family. It can be worked on every now and then a page at a time and kept as a family record, just as we would keep a family scrapbook. This book also teaches fundamental research principles, as it covers the child’s personal history, family tree, immigrant ancestors, geography, foods, languages, music and more.

Teachers often use this workbook for ideas or worksheets for following the interest of children in school. We sometimes forget what an interesting collection of histories we are likely to have in any group of children in the United States. 8.5” x 11,” workbook, 57 pages.

EH40 $2.95
A nightly ritual of family reading (instead of watching TV) is a good way to make sure that there is time for all the great literature and poetry that you might want to read to your child. In our family we as parents have filled in many a gap in our own experience of great stories and books in this way.

Poetry brings more important elements into the child's language; there is a great increase in vocabulary when one delves into poetry. Even in the simplest forms words are used that are not common in prose. The music of poetry gives greater pleasure and facilitates memorization. Our favorite kinds of poetry are those that can be read aloud, like a Greek chorus, or which tell long stories, such as the Pied Piper.

It sometimes happens, however, that a child becomes disinterested in reading on his own because he is afraid this nightly ritual will come to an end. To prevent this we can assure the child that we will continue to read as long as he desires. In our home we still occasionally take turns reading at bedtime with our fifteen-year-old.
Reading well takes years and a child continues to need the inspiration of being read to. He needs to hear the correct pronunciation of new words, the increase of vocabulary, the intonation and beauty of voice and expression of an experienced reader. But most of all he needs, and perhaps never outgrows the need for, the love and the closeness, the personal attention from parents, a friend or a teacher, that comes with curling up with a book, picturing the magic scenes in his head with his eyes closed as he listens, and listens.

The child over seven is intensely interested in morals and heroes. Mythology provides a wealth of material for this exploration, and inspires discussion which will encompass the behavior in everyday life, in the family, the class, and society.

**LEARNING TO READ**

If a child learns to read in a motor-sensorial way with no pressure she may learn before the age of five or six. But it is quite natural for a child not to show an interest until later. The most important thing is that learning be a relaxed and enjoyable experience.

When a child first begins to read independently, we never ask him to read aloud. To read a word while you are, at the same time, saying aloud the word you have just finished decoding, is a very complex operation and can cause a lot of stress—certainly not enjoyment.

We give beginning readers reading cards and vocabulary books to help them build up a large vocabulary with no stress.
The best first books are written about the child's environment, about the real world—history, sciences, etc.—or are abridged classics which lead to an interest in great literature.

**CREATIVE WRITING**

*I hear and I forget; I see and I remember; I write and I understand.*

—Chinese Proverb

A child who has had an active physical and mental life, with her whole body and with the hands in particular, will usually find writing easy. Running, hopping, cooking, gardening, sewing, drawing, all help to prepare for writing. And a wealth of experiences prepare for content.

When the child first begins to write we do not make corrections. We "teach by teaching, not by correcting." Instead we teach all of the necessary skills in activities which are completely unrelated to the creative writing effort, as indirect preparation.

The following is a suggestion for teaching spelling:

**PERSONAL SPELLING DICTIONARY**

Most of the words in the spelling lists usually given to children to learn are never really used. In Montessori classes the child constructs his own "spelling dictionary" of those words which are a part of his individual writing vocabulary.

For this you can use a simple address book, preferably one without any writing in it, just the alphabetized tabs. Or you can cut tabs into the pages of a small notebook. Whenever a child comes to you for the spelling of a word, or if he asks you to check the words he has

**JOYFUL NOISE**

*POEMS FOR TWO VOICES*

For cozy family evenings "poetry duets" are a very good introduction for children to the art of reading poetry. One feels like part of an ancient Greek chorus during those times when everyone wants to join in. Some of the lines are spoken together and some separately, resounding with the pulse of the cicada and the drone of the honeybee.

The vibrant pencil drawings send each insect soaring, spinning and creeping along with the words. There are thirteen poems about insects, water striders, cicadas, honeybees—and so on. 44 pages, black and white, soft cover.

EL82 $5.95

**CLASSROOM LABELS**

As the child learns to read single words, it is fun to look around and find the object she is trying to sound out. In the beginning the teacher or parent can give the child only a few objects and labels, then gradually increase the number of labels. With these vinyl, waterproof, long-lasting labels as inspiration, the child can go on to make labels for the many other objects in the environment. This set presents 154 words that name familiar objects, including furniture, equipment, utensils, Montessori materials, and many household objects. They are white vinyl with blue lettering. The package comes with fourteen 12" strips to be cut into small labels.

(*) EL025 $10.00

**QUIDDLER**

*"THE SHORT WORD GAME"*

The directions on this card game say for "age 8 and up," but it can easily be adapted for any age. There are 114 beautiful cards of the letters of the alphabet, and some combinations, decorated with illuminated manuscript letters. The cards are dealt and the players make words with the letters they have. There are variations explained, and you can make up your own. Suggestion: make a rule that everyone can use the dictionary to make up words—this makes exploring a dictionary really enjoyable.

Quiddler is a simple game at first glance, but it can challenge even the most capable adult. In fact it was honored for excellency in the national Mensa competition.

(*) EL103 $12.00

**THE ULTIMATE VISUAL DICTIONARY**

Reading aloud is very difficult for most children. In the 3-6 and 6-12 class the teacher provides many ways for the child to practice reading silently, but still focusing on the meaning of the words, not just the sounding out of the words. Reading a single word which is printed next to the picture to which the word refers is the best way to do this.

There are 640 pages of practical, valuable words in this book, including: the house, clothing, plants, fruits, vegetables, the animal kingdom, music, geography, the human body, architecture, sports and games, and many, many other areas. There is a new 48-page section that covers the latest developments in technology. This book not only gives reading practice, but opens up new areas of interest, and increases vocabulary. It is as interesting to adults as to children, and fun to share. Hardcover, color, 8" x 9.5," 640 pages.

(*) EL1025 $39.95
written and you find some misspelled, write these words - beautifully of course - in his spelling dictionary - words beginning with 'a' in the 'a' section and so forth. The next time he wants that word he will be able to find it in his own book. Eventually he will be able to find the words he needs in a regular dictionary and add them to his own book.

The children can have spelling tests among themselves to learn their own particular words. You will soon find that there are not so many words the child needs to learn to spell, and those will be the ones he always uses. This will gradually give the child confidence to use more varied words, because they will be in his own book - and his writing vocabulary will grow by leaps and bounds.

HANDBOOKING

Beautiful writing has been a lost art in our country for many years but it is having a resurgence. Children feel very good about themselves and tend to write far more when they have been taught beautiful handwriting. Giving a child a new alphabet and a different kind of writing utensil often does wonders to inspire writing. The Italic script is very beautiful and a link between cursive and print. I have seen a child's cursive writing improve dramatically as he casually worked through a set of Italic workbooks over a period of years.

CAREER بدا

Handwriting

Beautiful writing has been lost art in our country for many years but it is having a resurgence. Children feel very good about themselves and tend to write far more when they have been taught beautiful handwriting. Giving a child a new alphabet and a different kind of writing utensil often does wonders to inspire writing. The Italic script is very beautiful and a link between cursive and print. I have seen a child's cursive writing improve dramatically as he casually worked through a set of Italic workbooks over a period of years.
growth and development of language—through travel, colonization, commerce, war, etc.,
(2) How humans have given a name to everything found or made and how this process continues,
(3) How language constantly changes and why, (4) How language expresses the creative force of humanity.
At this age children in many ways are repeating the history of humans on earth. They want to cook, sew, garden, begin to learn all of the skills of adults. Children and adults alike find it fascinating to trace the development of the language, to realize that in the past only a few people, sometimes only priests, knew how to read and write. They find the connection between the migrations and other contacts between groups of people and the many different languages on earth.

ETYMOLOGY
Etymology, or the origin and historical development of words, is fascinating to children at this age. It is a fine basis of learning to spell, and contributes to an understanding the history of cultures.
In our family we have a very large dictionary always available on a special table in the living room. Nothing else is allowed to be put on the table so that the dictionary is always usable. We look up the etymology, or the origin of words, even more often than we look up the meanings. If you do not have a good dictionary and are planning to purchase one we recommend that you make sure that the origin of words is included along with the pronunciation and definition.

THE AMERICAN HERITAGE DICTIONARY
Don't waste your time on children's picture dictionaries. 90% of the time the word one wants isn't there and this is very frustrating for a child. This small paperback edition is the best we know of, for home or school. There are over 70,000 entries, the etymology, or history, of most words (which is the most interesting way to learn spelling), and over 400 illustrations. Softcover, 4” x 7,” 952 pages.

DICTIONARY OF IDIOMS
More than 600 Phrases, Sayings & Expressions Idioms appear in every language, and English has thousands of them. "Let the cat out of the bag," for example, is an idiom which means "to give away a secret." Centuries ago, in England, it meant having been cheated at the market and coming home with a cat, instead of a piglet, which was not discovered until one let the cat out of the bag.
"Let the chips fall where they may" means to do the right thing, and in the 1880's admonished woodcutters to concentrate on doing a good job of cutting down the tree instead of worrying where the wood chips would fall.

1001 PITFALLS IN ENGLISH GRAMMAR
This is a great reference book. It contains the basic rules of English, with the grammatical exceptions and idioms clearly explained. Contains parts of speech, the sentence and its parts, punctuation and capitalization, abbreviations, contractions, troublesome words and phrases, idiomatic usage, numbers, prefixes and suffixes, and the 318 words most frequently misspelled. This is an excellent reference book for any home or classroom. Softcover, 373 pages.
We often take names of people and places for granted, assuming that they existed from the beginning of time. Imagine the amount of history and geography one can learn from stories of how people and places were named!

Studying the history of names, first names and last names, is a wonderful way to interest children in language. Most of us have completely lost touch with the history of our families for more than two or three generations, and have no idea how and why we are named what we are. This information can inspire a never ending study of language.

Grammar
As adults we have mixed memories of learning grammar. Usually these studies are considered difficult and taught at a period of life when we were not really interested in language. It works best to follow the child’s interest and this is the time of life when children are very interested in the progress of civilization, including language—including the structure of their own language.

Many great educators and philosophers have stated that there is nothing that cannot be taught if the student and the subject matter are well understood and creatively put in touch with each other. We try to make everything interesting, so that it will be enjoyed and retained.

NOTE: There are many language materials, especially reading books, in the 3-6 sections and other 6-12 sections of Child of the World, Michael Olaf's Essential Montessori for 3-12+. 

THE STORY OF WRITING
Alphabets, Hieroglyphs & Pictograms
Published in 1995 in London, this is the book elementary classes have been waiting for. The Story of Writing is the first book to demystify writing—perhaps humanity's greatest invention—for the general reader, explaining the interconnection between sound, symbol and script. The major writing systems are discussed, from cuneiform and Egyptian and Mayan hieroglyphs to the alphabets and the scripts of China and Japan today. "Proto writing," including Ice Age symbols, tallies and Native American pictograms, Greek, Roman, Hebrew, Arabic and Indian scripts, even the Cherokee alphabet and the writing of runes are presented.

There are over 350 illustrations, with 50 in color. Softcover, 8" x 10," color, 218 pages. This book is going out of print this year and may not be reprinted.

THE ATLAS OF LANGUAGES
This book follows the Montessori curriculum of connecting the development of language with the history of migrations and explorations of groups of people. It presents a detailed and well illustrated account of the language families of each region of the world, interesting features of grammar, and historical and cultural background. The writing systems of the world, and over two hundred languages, are also examined in detail, and illustrated with maps and artifacts. A valuable research tool for language and the history of humans in the last 5,000 years. Hardcover, 9" x 12," color, 218 pages.

A STORY OF LETTERS
Poster & Book
Our favorite language poster comes folded within the pages of a book of suggested activities and information from the Exploratorium in San Francisco.

The poster of the history of our alphabet shows the evolution of each symbol from the Phoenician, through Hebrew, Greek, Etruscan, and Latin languages, to the present. The Hebrew and Greek names of the symbols are also given.

The poster is off-white, with red and gold titles and black letters. It is 33 inches high and 22 inches wide.

HORSEFEATHERS
How did the "earwig" get his name? Why is a certain Southern food called "hushpuppy"? What about "turtledove" and "butterscotch"? Once we get started, we find that there is a fascinating story behind many of the words we use every day. Children love to find out where their words come from and why. Horsefeathers contains over two hundred pages of word stories to start an adult, or a child, on this endless field of discovery. Softcover, 200 pages.

USA Toll Free ORDER Number 888.880.9235
Imagination does not become great until a person, given the courage and strength, uses it to create.

If this does not occur, the imagination addresses itself only to a spirit wandering in emptiness.

—Maria Montessori

A group of teachers visited the U.S.S.R. a few years ago for an international conference on education. They were interested in learning from the Germans, the Russians, and a few other countries, how their children accomplished so much in the math and sciences. They were shocked to learn that the teachers from these countries were anxious to find out how the American students reached such high levels of creative thinking!

Math and science are very important—but not more so than the arts! What good are they without a curious and creative mind which manipulates the facts to make new discoveries?

When information is processed in some active, musical or artistic way—graphs, posters, drawings, creating maps, songs, plays, and so forth, the knowledge becomes permanent instead of short term memory data for testing. And it strengthens the creative part of the brain.

MULTICULTURAL MUSIC:
CD'S AND TAPES

To give children a balanced exposure to music, we begin with music of the world and gradually narrow the focus to the child's own country. In "The Best of World Music" we hear beautiful instrumental music, and some of the best musicians from all over the world: Cuba, Iran, England, Australia, France, Bangladesh, Ireland, Canada, Madagascar, Germany, India, and Zimbabwe. Some of the proceeds of the sale of this music benefits Cultural Survival, a nonprofit organization helping these countries.

From our own country we have a beautiful recording of music from Native American flutes, called "Tribal Winds." The selections include music from the Cheyenne, Comanche, Ute, Navajo, Zuni, Lakota, Dakota, Kiowa-Apache, Mandan, and Algonkian. A portion of the proceeds support the efforts of Native American intertribal organizations.

EA182 World Music Cassette $10.95
EA183 World Music CD $15.95
EA190 Tribal Winds Flute Cassette $10.95
EA200 Tribal Winds Flute CD $15.95

MASTERS OF MUSIC SERIES

Over the last year we have anxiously awaited the English translation of each new volume of this fantastic music encyclopedia. The series is beautifully designed and filled with color illustrations, offering young (and old!) readers detailed into the lives and accomplishments of amateur musicians and professionals throughout the ages. Relevant facts about musical instruments, theory, historical background are explained in clear, easy-to-comprehend language. We hope there will be more to come. Perfect for the parent or teacher who wants to bring music into the environment but doesn't know where to start, or for the well-educated musician—who is bound to find something fascinating in each book. Hardcover, 9" x 11.5," full color, 63 pages.

(*) EA130 Music of the World $14.95
(*) EA131 Bach and Baroque Music $14.95
(*) EA132 Beethoven and the Classical Age $14.95
(*) EA133 Opera $14.95
(*) EA134 Mozart and Classical Music $14.95
(*) EA135 Chopin and Romantic Music $14.95
(*) EA136 Jazz and its History $14.95
(*) EA137 Rock Music $14.95
(*) EA138 Masters of Music, Set/8 $100.00

ROUND THE WORLD SONGBOOK

Learning songs from other cultures is a most enjoyable way to learn geography and prepares a child for travel and living in a world which is getting smaller and smaller. It is a great feeling to travel and be able to recognize and even sing the songs of the country one is visiting.

This book combines music with research in geography. For each song there are pictures from the country, pictures of the local instruments, piano music, guitar chords, and the words in two languages, English and the native language. There are over thirty songs, in twenty-four different languages, and from all continents. Phonetic spelling enables one to sing in the original, from Arabic to Welsh. Fascinating information and lively pictures illustrate the music. Softcover, 9" x 11," color, 47 pages.

EA170 $9.95
Processing means The Arts!

Art is most successfully taught when it is combined with all other subjects. The work, whether it is the field of geography, biography, history, math, or language takes the form of a project where the head and hand work together toward a creative, artistic expression. In order to learn in this way the child needs the tools and uninterrupted time. The adult supplies art materials, exposure to good music and other fields of creation, long blocks of time, and respect for the child's expression of emotions, thoughts, and ideas.

Children can create two and three-dimensional art, weaving, and a beautiful environment full of poetry, theatre, song, the sounds of instruments. There have been wonderful plays created on science themes—for example acting out photosynthesis in a leaf or reenacting the appearance of life forms on earth. Beautiful designs are created if children are encouraged to create with protractors and compasses and colored pencils as they make discoveries in the fields of geometry. One of our favorite games at home it to play on the piano an expressions of how a person talks, or an idea or a color.

When a child learns by combining areas of information instead of separating them the whole understanding of life—and development of the brain—makes a giant leap. There are no limits to avenues
of creativity.

Not only are famous artists and musicians studied, but ordinary people who bring arts into their everyday lives. A child might interview parents, teachers, grandparents, to see what art forms they pursue as hobbies, what they did as children, and what are their dreams. One school we know selects a group art creation every year and auctions it off to raise money for a field trip. Many elementary classes create original musical reviews and music concerts.

Studying the creative forms of other cultures, experiencing the dances and playing the musical instruments, studying the reasons why different architectural forms developed, and clothing or language, give a child an understanding of the universality of human needs and expression.

When elementary-aged children reach adolescence they enter one of the most creative period of life, and will create based on those talents they have begun to develop in earlier years. For them, and for adults who have had this experience, living without the arts would seem like living in black and white instead of in color.

This period of life, between the age of six and twelve, is the time to explore and to develop a facility in as many creative forms as possible.

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**100 ARTISTS WHO SHAPED WORLD HISTORY**

From the early Greek sculptors to Andy Warhol, artists have reflected and sometimes even formed the thoughts of humans, affecting the history of us all. This book, in the same series of other great people, presents one artist and one black and white illustration per page. AND it teaches the correct pronunciation of the artist's name. It is very interesting to read about how each artist evolved, and contributed to the development of painting, sculpture, and photography. This information can be used to make cards to lay out on a timeline of history. Softcover, 6" x 9," 109 pages.

**EA210**

$7.95

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**POTHOLDER LOOM & COTTON LOOPS**

In our family we stopped making these wonderful potholders when cotton loops were replaced by those synthetic loops that shrank the potholder to 3 inches when it was taken off the loom! Now there is an improved metal loom which holds the potholder in place more securely, AND cotton loops. There are enough for 3-4 potholders, loom, hook, and directions. A bag of extra loops of assorted colors is also available.

**EA010**

Potholder Loom and Loops

$10.00

**EA012**

Bag of Loops

$3.50

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**BROWN BAG IDEAS FROM MANY CULTURES**

Here is an inspiring multicultural art book which teaches children, by active participation, about the art of the world while helping the earth by recycling paper bags.

Examples are included from all continents: African tribal beads, Ghanaian Adinkra cloth, Ethiopian magic scrolls, Dashikis, leather shields, bark cloth, Aboriginal bark paintings, Hawaiian tapa cloth, Javanese shadow puppets, Polish paper cuts, Mexican folk bark paintings, Kachinas, and more, 30 projects in all, with very clear directions, and a color picture of the finished project. ALL MADE FROM RECYCLED PAPER BAGS. Softcover, color, 6" x 9," 137 pages.

**EA06**

$18.95

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**HISTORY OF ART FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

For a valuable overview of art of the Western World we recommend this book to any child or adult. It feels so good to understand references to art in poetry and prose, newspaper articles, history books, etc.

For more than twenty years this book has remained unsurpassed as an introduction to the fascinating world of artistic creation for young people. It contains 519 illustrations, 219 in full color, and information on works of art, schools and artists. It presents art in the context of history with a timeline or chronological chart listing key works of art and contemporaneous events in literature, science and history.

This is the most used and recommended art reference for schools and families. Hardcover, 7.5" x 10.5," color, 528 pages.

**EA12**

$49.50
Geometry, math, and invention are languages used to explore and manipulate, to theorize and create, real objects in a real world. At this age children continue to enjoy exploring math and geometry concepts if they are related to real life, and if they are presented with materials which can be handled, manipulated, used to create. We must keep sight of this fact when teaching children. We give manipulative materials in all areas of math and leave it to each child to decide when she is ready to work without materials—in the abstract—on paper with pencil.

**ROGER'S CONNECTION**
Over the years we have tried just about every piece of material invented for teaching, through manipulatives, the formation of different three dimensional natural geometric shapes. The small set contains 15 plastic tubes embedded with 30 rare earth magnets and 8 nickel-plated steel balls. The large set contains 30 tubes imbedded with 60 rare earth magnets, and 14 steel balls. The possibilities are endless, and the set can be added to over the years.

To give a relative size, each black strut is 4” long.
EM458 Small Set (53 pc) $22.00
EM460 Large Set (104 pc) $36.00

**EASY-TO-MAKE GEOMETRICAL SHAPES**
Cutting out, scoring, and folding geometrical figures is an excellent way for a child to learn about math, and geometry.

In the workbook *Easy-to-make 3D Shapes* the child is given six different geometrical figures in brilliant color and on sturdy coated paper to cut out and assemble. The figures are: cube, tetrahedron, pentagonal prism, octahedron, cuboctahedron and icosahedron. Card stock, color.

In *Cut and Assemble 3D Geometrical Shapes* children learn to make the geometric solids: tetrahedron, the octahedron, the dodecahedron, the icosahedron, interpenetrating tetrahedrons, a small stellated dodecahedron, and the great stellated dodecahedron.

This work may lead to further exploration in model-making and in geometry. Cardstock, color.
EM10 3D Shapes $3.50
EM11 Geometric Shapes $7.95

**GEOMETRY TEMPLATE**
Even while listening to stories some children just can’t sit still. It is highly recommended to allow them to listen while working with their hands, making geometric designs. This little tool provides a beginning for creating graphic art—repeating shapes, filling in with colored pencils, discovering mathematical patterns. This will inspire some children to create with compass and ruler. A sturdy, flexible, 8.5” x 11” plastic template that includes 32 geometric shapes.
EM346 $5.50

**GEOMETRY FOR EVERY KID**
**EASY ACTIVITIES**
**THAT MAKE LEARNING GEOMETRY FUN**
How do you measure the area of a pizza? How can you draw a circle within a circle without lifting your pencil from the paper? Packed with illustrations, this Janice VanCleave book uses simple problems and activities to teach about acute and obtuse angles, parallel and perpendicular lines, plane and space figures, and much more.

Each activity is broken down into its purpose, a list of materials, step-by-step instructions, expected results, and an easy to understand explanation.
Softcover, 6” x 9,” 218 pages.
EM480 $11.95

**THE GLIDING FLIGHT**
A return to paper airplane basics. We have tried many airplane kits and they always turn out to be too complicated for a child to enjoy without constant adult help. This is the book we have been looking for. 20 paper airplanes combining discovery in physics, math, and just plain fun. A glossary of terms—center of lift, drag, yaw, etc.—is included. Softcover, 9” x 7,” 146 pages.
EM160 $13.95
This abstract work is a higher mental level of work, which comes naturally after the child has learned to picture the object being measured or related to other objects in her mind.

In the elementary class stories are told and experiments carried out to show children how humans used their imaginations in the past, and how they are using them today, to solve problems and come up with great inventions—the use of fire, measuring the earth, compasses, boats, and many others. They see how inventions, geometry and math came about as the result of human progress, to meet specific needs.

Geometry, for example, arose from the practical need to reestablish planting boundaries after the annual flooding of the Nile in Egypt. In “geometry,” “geo” stands for “earth,” and “metry” for “measure.”

Children of this age love to reach back into history with their imaginations and reconstruct these needs and solutions and the creation of systems of learning. The Hindus introduced the use of “0.”

REAL CHINESE ABACUS
This roughly made, authentic abacus from China is just like the one used by thousands of people every day. The wooden dowels represent units, tens, hundreds and so on. To show a number, the appropriate beads are moved to the separating bar. Chinese users say that using an abacus can be faster than working with a calculator.

The abacus comes with small 32-page instruction booklet showing how to add, subtract, multiply and divide. There is more information on the abacus in the book How Math Works. Wood, bamboo, and metal, dimensions: 9.5” x 4.5.”

REAL CHINESE ABACUS $9.00

HOLLOW VOLUME FIGURES
The child has been exposed to plane and solid figures from a very early age, but this set offers the next step: investigating the inside, or the volume of common solid figures.

There are 12 small, translucent blue, plastic geometric solids. The child can remove the lids to fill with sand or water. This allows her to compare the volume in an interesting way. Pyramid, tetrahedron, cone, rectangular prisms, cube, triangular prism, hexagonal prism, sphere, hemisphere. The largest piece is the cube, which is 2 cubic inches.

HOLLOW VOLUME FIGURES $16.50

BASE TEN BLOCKS
The decimal, or base ten, system was based on the human counting on her ten fingers. It is still the most used system in the world. When a child is learning to add, subtract, multiply, and divide whole numbers, the use of this material makes the difference between ones or units, tens, hundreds, and thousands, very clear, both visually and by the weight of the solid wood. This is a very important step in teaching math through the senses. The set consists of 100 units, 10 tens, 10 hundred squares, and 1 thousand cube. The cube is just under 10 cm on a side. We recommend having two sets so the child can learn to "carry" tens and hundreds. A set of 10 cardboard 10 centimeter thousand cubes allows the child to work with larger numbers.

BASE TEN BLOCKS
EM175 1 Set $30.00
EM176 2 Sets $55.00
(*) EM500 Cardboard 100 Cubes/10 $12.00

MATH FOR EVERY KID
In Math for Every Kid basic math, measurements, graphing, and geometry are presented. Children can make a sun clock, create a thermometer using a straw, race a paper boat, grow their own bean plant...all in the name of math. Children learn and retain to a much greater extent when they gather and manipulate materials, carry out experiments, record results. Each of the experiments or problems is broken down into its purpose, a list of materials, instructions, results, and an explanation that children can understand. Softcover, 6” x 9,” 200 pages.

MATH FOR EVERY KID $11.95

FRACTION GRIDS
At around age five or six children often become interested in whole numbers up to millions and beyond—to infinity, especially infinity! This is the time to show them the pictures and give the names of the parts of “one,” or fractions, going to infinity in the other direction. This material provides a wonderful way to explore and to stave off the common fear of fractions that so many children suffer from if introduced to them only on paper. There are 60 acetate color-coded squares showing halves, thirds, fourths, fifths, sixths, eighths, tenths, twelfths, and hundredths grids. Age 4-100!

FRACTION GRIDS $15.50

(*) = new item
Let the child try to do math without it! Where did algebra, calculus, trigonometry come from? They want to know!

Children are inspired by these stories, and by examples and pictures, to find out more. Children come to realize that mathematics has evolved and is still evolving from a practical need. Math, graphing, fractions, all become logical tools for recording and measuring, and algebra a short cut for recording.

We encourage children to make up their own problems—especially story problems related to their lives and the subjects they are studying—for themselves and for their friends, in order to come to a very practical and clear understanding of geometry and math. Children enjoy making up problems for each other, and examples that stump their teachers. This process of math concepts makes them stick in the child's mind.

With higher math, geometry and algebra, we give many practical examples and help the children come up with their own formulae after much experience.
For example, if a child measures all of the rectangles in the room—tables, windows, books, etc. for figuring surface area, he will easily create, and even better understand, the formula \( A = lw \).

For each grade level, from 1st through high school, the children are shown the state requirements of math, just as any other subject. Then they learn to plan and schedule their work. It is left to each child to decide the best system and schedule, through trial and error, and with adult help, depending on learning styles, and interests.

This teaches the math of planning, scheduling, allotting sufficient time, and it teaches responsibility.

When children are given this solid, material foundation, and see the relationship of geometry and math to the real world, it makes it easier for them, in later years, to spend long periods of time working on paper.

This is because they know that these steps are just that—steps which will take them to a new level of understanding in the exciting world of math and science.

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**100 INVENTIONS THAT SHAPED WORLD HISTORY**
Each page contains a black and white photograph of one invention, and paragraphs of text discussing how it came about and why it affected history so profoundly, and a tiny map of the world showing where each was invented. From stone tools and the inclined plane, the elevator and aspirin, the automobile, to the compact disc and virtual reality. Excellent for cutting up to make time line pictures. Softcover, 6" x 9," 109 pages

**THE STORY OF CLOCKS AND CALENDARS: MARKING A MILLENNIUM**
Here is the story of time-keeping: how, over thousands of years, calendars and clocks came to be. Learn about the long, and sometimes amazing history of the Gregorian calendar itself, and why we will celebrate the beginning of the upcoming millennium not once, but twice.

The history of how humans have marked and recorded time, from the very beginning of our history, all over the world; from calendar sticks, bone records, Stonehenge, Egypt, the Chinese and the Maya, to time zones and computer problems at the turn of the century. Hardcover, 9.5" x 11.5," color, 47 pages.

**THE GREAT BOOK OF MATH TEASERS**
Have you ever been tricked by the offer to pay your child a 1¢ allowance for the first month and double it every month? Or do you remember tricks like, "Think of a number, add 5, multiply by 2, etc.?' or "How long would it take 100 storks to catch 100 frogs, when five storks need five minutes to catch five frogs?" This book is full of such entertaining math plots which make the subject of math fun for children. Don't worry, the answers are in the back. Softcover, 5" x 8," 96 pages.

**MEASUREMENTS \& CONVERSIONS**
A little book no inventor wants to be without—perpetual calendar, time zones of the world, the Beaufort scale, earth statistics, planetary data, conversion tables for temperature, energy, weight, volume, length and area, number systems, much more. All packed into a pocket-size, handy book. Softcover, 4.5" x 3," 254 pages.

**INVENTORS CARDS**
Important inventions pictured on this regular deck of playing cards include the cotton gin, steam locomotive, mechanical grain reaper and electric telegraph. This deck of cards includes thirteen inventors, four inventions each, to be used as a rummy game or on a history timeline. To make a timeline roll out a long piece of adding machine paper, write dates from BC to AD, lay out the cards and show children how recently many inventions have become available.

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CHILD of the WORLD, Michael Olaf's Essential Montessori for ages 3-12+, 2000-2001
Parents and teachers are the guardians of the future of humanity. As we live our lives in the presence of children, from birth until they become adults, we are constantly teaching by our own behavior. Sometimes we start to think that "education" refers only to the learning of math, language, sciences and the arts, but this is a very narrow view of what we are teaching. We are presenting to our children the meaning of life, the care of the self and of others, patterns of love, forgiveness and understanding, or suspicion and despair.

Thank goodness each child was born with an inner guide and wisdom, and all the tools to use whatever is found in the environment to create a self-fulfilled individual. Because of this, we adults do not have to be perfect. We can create a marvelous environment, learn to observe and interpret our child's behavior to discover his or her needs, and get out of the way!

This is no easy task, but it is possible. When human communities were small, parenting information from friends and family was readily available, and teachers and parents were in close contact. Today all this has changed. Parenting and teaching are possibly the most important and most difficult professions on earth.

One of the most important attitudes in learning to observe is to see each child as a new being each day, forgetting the past and seeing only the potential for greatness.

This is also the best way to look at ourselves, parents and teachers, at the beginning of each new day. It is a lot to
ask of the adult to provide everything a child needs and we believe that some time should be allotted, perhaps at the beginning of each day, to get mentally prepared for the task by praying, meditating, taking a walk. Then one is better able to take a deep breath and face the day with a feeling of being new and in the present moment. If we can balance ourselves, our other relationships and friendships, with adults and children, will be more enjoyable.

We are all parents, grandparents, teachers, children's advocates, because we care about others. No matter how much we try to be perfect we must learn to be easy on ourselves, to not waste time wishing we "had only known earlier," but must learn to laugh, to pick up the pieces, and to begin again. We hope you continue to learn, to enjoy your roles as parents and teachers, and to share your wisdom and experience with others.

We hope that this publication is helpful to you, as it is through these pages that we try to pass on what we have learned and are continuing to learn about children, families, teaching, and learning.

**Age 0-6**

At this age children imitate, they literally absorb, the life around them. We can never be too kind, too respectful, too wise, to be their role models. When they are not with us, we must have the highest expectations for them, and substitute the best of themselves.

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**THE SHELTER OF EACH OTHER: REBUILDING OUR FAMILIES**

This book helps us find the courage to protect, nurture, and revivify the families we cherish. "A canny mix of optimism and practicality gives Pipher's fans a way to resist the worst of the culture around them and substitute the best of themselves." (Newsweek). Softcover, 271 pages.

GB875 $12.95

**PUNISHED BY REWARDS**

It has been shown over and over again that children who are working on interesting projects of their own choice, who are learning in an open and supportive environment, are hindered and interrupted by rewards as much as by force and punishment. Both are a control by the adult of a natural human function—learning. They learn best when they love what they are doing.

In *Punished by Rewards* Mr. Kohn shows us that the same is true for adults. He convincingly exposes the destructive effects of using rewards to control both children and adults. This understanding helps us to replace costly practices with better ones. Softcover, 351 pages.

GB07 $14.00

**NO CONTEST**

In this companion volume, Alfie Kohn continues to help us understand the natural and joyful ways of learning and what can get in the way. In *No Contest, The Case Against Competition*, he explains why healthy competition is a contradiction in terms, and how it sabotages self-esteem and ruins relationships. Softcover, 288 pages

GB140 $14.00

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**FOUR ARGUMENTS FOR THE ELIMINATION OF TELEVISION**

This prophetic book was written in 1978, and has remained one of the best in the field.

_The case against TV has never been made more effectively. It should be read by all addicts and anyone contemplating participation in the desertification of the mind to which TV leads._ —Ashley Montagu, Anthropologist, author of _The Nature of Human Aggression_.

Jerry Mander spent 15 years in the advertising business, and he speaks from experience about what the media does to our minds. Weaving personal experiences through meticulous research, he ranges widely over aspects of television that have rarely been examined and never before joined together, allowing an entirely new image to emerge. The idea that all technologies are neutral, benign instruments that can be used well or badly, is thrown open to profound doubt. The *Wall Street Journal* has called him the Ralph Nader of advertising. This is fascinating reading. Softcover, 5" x 8," 360 pages.

(*) GB09 $12.00

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**PARENTING REPRINTS**

Modern brain research is proving what we have always suspected—that television and computers are detrimental to the development of children during the first six years of life. This is the time when they need to move and to learn through physical experience in the real world. Movement and "work" during this crucial time aids the development of self image and self-esteem.

*Television and the Young Child,* by Dr. Silvana Montanaro, Italian MD, Psychiatrist, Pediatritian, and Montessori teacher trainer;
*Computers and Children,* by Dr. Peter Gebhardt Seele, physicist and Montessori teacher trainer; *Aiding the Development of Self-Esteem in Children,* (from birth to age 12+) by Susan Stephenson, Montessori parent, teacher. These articles are published by The Association Montessori Internationale in the United States.

GB76 Television $1.25
GB77 Computers $1.25
GB78 Self-Esteem $1.25
GB788 Set/3 $3.50

(*) = new items
standard of expectation for any adults with whom they spend time.

The 3-6 environment is not called a school, but a Casa dei Bambini, or House of Children. It is very different from the traditional preschool. In order to create an authentic Casa dei Bambini, it is helpful to imagine that you are welcoming adult friends into your own inviting, comfortable, enjoyable home. 

Would you have everyone sit on a line and put their hands in their lap and close their mouths? Or would you have specially prepared interesting activities, perhaps some food, and welcome each person with a personal greeting, inviting her to make herself at home?

Would you line up chairs and tables, labeling where your guests were to sit? Or would you arrange the home with paintings, comfortable chairs, plants, soft music? If a guest in your home appeared at loose ends would you tell him to get to work, or would you have a private conversation with him and offer some interesting activity?

When your guests were all settled in and having a lovely time would you interrupt them and tell them to come and sit in a circle because what you have to show them is more important than anything they might be doing?

What if a guest were tired or hungry? In the 3-6 class, the Casa dei Bambini, each child is welcomed with a "good morning" and a handshake, then looks around and finds something interesting to do. He is treated with respect, and not coerced.

A Montessori 3-6 environment is called a house of children because children are free to choose their tasks, ideally both inside and outside in the fresh air. If they are tired or hungry they have been shown where to rest or sleep,

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GETTING UNPLUGGED

Even if most of us realize by now the problems of spending too much of one's precious life communicating with a TV, video game, or computer, there is still the BIG problem of breaking the habit. That is where this book comes in.

Joan Anderson and Robin Wilkins bring us up to date with the research that shows that too much time with these machines increases violence, causes poor social skills, behavioral problems, apathy and declining test scores. But they go on to present an easy-to-follow 4-week program that helps children and parents take care of their electronic addictions, and replace these wasted hours with real life. From preschoolers to adults. The older child can read the book along with the parent and participate fully in improving the life of the family.

Softcover, 164 pages, ($*) GB170 $12.95

ADHD: A CASE STUDY

In the spring of 1996, eight-year-old Denise had been put on Ritalin by school personnel for the third time, in a third school. In desperation her parents sent her from Florida to California to stay with the Stephensons for six weeks.

Nutrition, environmental influences, behavior patterns, and the ability to focus of this bright and sensitive girl were observed. She improved dramatically. This is the report to her school, which, at the request of many schools, her family has generously agreed to share. 7 pages.

GB855 $4.00

FAMILY MATH BOOKS

Doing and enjoying math are basic human functions. These books help us reverse the common math phobias and get back to loving math. They were written for the home as well as the school and show how to provide a "math environment," to help a child make math discoveries and develop enjoyment and understanding of the world of math. University of California, Berkeley, California. Both books are softcover, with black and white illustrations, 8.5" x 11." 

Family Math for Young Children (age 3-8): 190 pages.
Family Math (age 6-12+): 318 pages.

GB470 Family Math for Young Children $18.95
GB55 Family Math $18.95

THE CHILD IS FATHER OF THE MAN

Dr. Silvana Quattrocchi Montanaro, M.D., is the International Director of the Montessori Assistants to Infancy program which was begun by Dr. Montessori in Italy in 1947. She has captured the wisdom of this important information concerning the child from birth to three years in this book. Glancing through the pages and looking at the pictures, one becomes aware of the fact that the child at this age is capable of much more than previously thought possible.

Each 2-page spread contains color photos and a few words of explanation and wisdom. Chapters: prenatal life, birth, the first 6-8 weeks, the father's presence, the meaning of maternal care, the potential of the brain, communication, weaning: a new relationship with the environment, development of movement. The text is in both English and Italian. Printed in Italy. 8.5" x 10.5," full color, 110 pages.

(*) GB090 $24.95

USA Toll Free ORDER Number 888.880.9235
or how to set the table and prepare a snack, cleaning up after themselves.

They are invited, but never required, to carry out certain tasks. The adult observes and strives to meet the child's physical, mental, and emotional needs.

Once a child has been attracted to and has begun to concentrate on a bit of work, the adult respects this choice and concentration and does not interrupt.

This is an explanation of a small part of the Montessori philosophy in the school, which, combined with parenting skills, can be adapted to the home, with practice and support.

At this age we give the child, who is voraciously devouring experiences, the basic elements of all future studies—biology, art, geography, geometry, math, music, and language. These are given through individual lessons on the use, by the individual child, of the materials.

**Age 6-12:**

This is a very stable and a more intellectual age. The 6-12 children are interested in the ways in which society functions, how it came into being, how people came into contact with others.

They want to explore the past and the farthest reaches of the universe with the imagination. They want to see and understand the universe and the development of humanity. These children make incredible advances in intellectual work as they go out into society and learn to function independently in and outside school.

**Age 12-18:**

As in the period from 0-6, this child is going through periods of rapid growth and emotional changes. Especially in the first three years he will need more sleep, time to think, contact with nature. This is
not the time to pile on intellectual work and risk causing frustration, rudeness, and the desire to escape. This is in a way a romantic age, and children respond to music, literature, poetry and drama. They can be drawn into an understanding of all of humanity through these studies, and into creations of their own as a way to explore and come to understand their own developing emotions as they pass from the stage of childhood to that of being adult.

AGE 18-24:

If the needs of the person are met in the first eighteen years of life, he will be ready to become an independent adult, both physically and mentally, by age twenty-four. "Arrested development" occurs when a child is not able to fulfill needs at the proper time.

A child who experiences independence—going to the grocery store on his own, finding books in a public library, interacting with people outside the school and family—by the end of the stable age of six to twelve—will have a better chance of experiencing a happy transition from adolescence to adult life: going to college, or moving out into the adult world, getting an apartment, and earning a living as an adult.

FOR EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON
It is not good for children when we, parents and teachers, push them into stages that they are not ready for. But neither is it good for us to hold children back when they are ready to operate independently. Every unnecessary help is really a hindrance to development. This is true at any age, from a child who is ready to wean himself from nursing, the young child who wants to pick out her own clothing in the morning, and the teenager who decides to study

3-HOUR WORK PERIOD:
Lecture Reprint
OBSERVATION OF 3-6 CLASS:
Article Reprint
The uninterrupted concentration of children as they work is the most important element of the Montessori experience. This is a reprint of a lecture on this crucial 3-hour work period, and how to "get there" in the Montessori 3-6 class. It was delivered by Susan Stephenson at the 1996 New Zealand Montessori Conference.

Included are example concentration graphs taken from Dr. Montessori's writings, a blank graph to be copied and used by teachers, and specific suggestions for eliminating group lessons, fostering individual work, and aiding the development of concentration and normalization in children.

Also included is a reprint of the article "Observation of a 3-6 Montessori Class," written in 1987 about the children's class at the Maria Montessori Training Center (AMI) in London, England, where the 3-hour work period is part of the daily schedule. 22 pages

GB850 $8.00

FOR AGE 6-12

REQUIRED CURRICULUM EXAMPLES
In a Montessori elementary class, the state or country public school requirements for grades one through six are posted on the wall, a page for each year. Each child works with the teacher to plan his schedule for meeting these requirements, so that he can be free to use the major portion of school time to follow his own research interests.

These sample curricula give an overview of what children at this age are expected to cover in a variety of schools: (1) a California public school curriculum—in Montessori language—for K-3, (2) a private school curriculum from a school in Nepal, (3) a Waldorf-type homeschooling curriculum, (4) a sampling of the public school requirements in Japan. 24 pages

GB54 $6.00

EARNING MONEY, HANDLING MONEY
All too often today children are given, or they earn, money which is to be spent for nonessentials rather than for food, basic clothing, transportation, gifts, and so on. This does not prepare them for independence or responsibility.

Here is a reprint of an article by Susan Stephenson on a budget system for a seven-year-old which involves him in meeting the family's basic needs, in planning ahead, giving service to others, and in learning the value of money. Age 6-12.

ER08 $1.50
the electric guitar instead of the viola.

At all ages the favorite quote of Dr. Montessori is appropriate:

Please help me to do it myself!

I had always understood that Madame Montessori dispensed with discipline and I wondered how she managed a room full of children...

On sending my little boy of three to spend his mornings in a Montessori school, I found that he quickly became a more disciplined human being...

The pedagogical discoveries involved have required genius but the teachers who are to apply them do not require genius. They require only the right sort of training, together with a degree of sympathy and patience, which is by no means unusual. The fundamental idea is simple: that the right discipline consists not in external compulsion, but in habits of mind, which lead spontaneously to desirable rather than undesirable activities. What is astonishing is the great success in finding technical methods of embodying this idea in education. For this, Madame Montessori deserves the highest praise.'

—Bertrand Russell from "ON EDUCATION"

The primary danger of the television screen lies not so much in the behavior it produces as the behavior it prevents...

Turning on the television set can turn off the process that transforms children into adults.

—Urie Bronfenbrenner, Cornell

MONTESSORI TODAY

Paula Polk Lillard brings to this volume a wealth of knowledge about the child from age six to twelve. There are 16 photographs from elementary classes. In detailed accounts of both theory and practice of Montessori methods, the author shows how children acquire the skills to answer their own questions, learn to manage freedom with responsibility, and maintain a high level of intellectual curiosity.

Softcover, 190 pages.

GB826 $12.00

REPRINT: AGE 12-18

There are a few Montessori high schools, but most children at this age go on to traditional educational setting. Montessori education ideas are still very important to these children. This is a 2-page reprint of information on the child from age 12-18 from past issues of Michael Olaf's Essential Montessori. It touches upon the Montessori program for the child from 12-15, and 15-16, the "Erdkinder", and university age. Included are important quotes from Dr. Montessori, Joseph Chilton Pearce, Newsweek, The Education Guardian in London, and Albert Einstein.

(*) GB865 $1.50

HOW RUDE!
THE TEENAGERS’ GUIDE TO GOOD MANNERS, PROPER BEHAVIOR, AND NOT GROSSING PEOPLE OUT

This serious-but-humorous book covers it all—from traditional thank-you notes and dinner table manners, to modern day manners surrounding kissing, skateboarding, cliques, bullies, classroom behavior, divorce, and Email. It does not lecture to teenagers, but keeps them laughing, as it makes the point that people with good manners have happier, more successful, more considerate lives.

Softcover, 7.25" x 9", black and white, 480 pages.

GB487 $19.95

FIGHTING INVISIBLE TIGERS
A STRESS MANAGEMENT GUIDE FOR TEENS

Just having a stress reference book in hand can improve parent-child communication and reassure a teen—that he/she is not the only one feeling this way. There are many expectations in society today which are completely out of sync with the natural needs of the human being at this age. With advice on dealing with feeling overwhelmed, frustrated, tired, or stressed out by the challenges in life this is a perennial best-seller, covering assertion, relationships, taking risks, making decisions, staying healthy, dealing with fears, staying positive and keeping amused.

Softcover, 6" x 11", 160 pages.

GB459 $12.95

WHAT DO YOU STAND FOR?
A Kid’s Guide to Building Character

In her famous diary, Anne Frank wrote, "The final forming of a person’s character lies in their own hands." Educators should be at least as concerned with the overall development of the person’s character as with the academic accomplishments. The goal of this book is to help a person understand herself better, to figure out what one stands for and what one won’t stand for, and to become a stronger, happier, more complete person. It is filled with stories, ideas, even web sites supporting character education. Softcover, 7.25" x 9", black and white, 260 pages.

GB870 $19.95

FOR AGE 12 +
INTRODUCTION

The discoveries of Dr. Maria Montessori, MD can help parents and teachers in many situations. Hers are lessons of observation, understanding, wisdom. Her advice was always: "Follow the Child."

Her discoveries led to a revolution, not only in childbirth and the handling of the newborn, but in the teaching of children from preschool throughout high school. Because the scope of this publication is the child from three to twelve, we focus here on information which can be used in school or at home for children of this age.

MONTESSORI TEACHERS

The most important consideration, in deciding to set up a Montessori class is the training of the teacher. A non-Montessori-trained teacher can no more be expected to teach "Montessori" than a biologist could be expected to teach French. Using the Montessori method to teach is extremely challenging, but equally exciting and rewarding.

As there is a long waiting list of schools who want to hire well-trained Montessori teachers, many are sponsored for training by their schools or a group of parents. This is a wonderful profession for anyone who loves to be present for the miracle of the development of children.

We know that allowing for the work of the inner guide is the hardest part of working in the classroom. It is easy to emphasize our own agenda: to weigh the academics disproportionately, to push for the quick solution, to substitute our will for the child's. It is so difficult to keep from over-directing, to observe without judgement, to wait for the child to reveal herself. Yet, over and over again, when we do honor that inner guide, the personality unfolds in a way that surprises—that goes beyond what we could direct or predict.

—Dr. Sharon Dubble, Ph.D.
Montessori teacher

Montessori schools have proven successful all over the world, with all kinds of children (wealthy, poor, gifted, normal, learning disabled, blind, etc.) and environments (from refugee camps and slums, to elegant schools in beautiful private homes).

There are many kinds of Montessori teacher training, from correspondence courses (valuable for parents but not for a teacher in charge of a whole class) to three-year, 0-12, graduate school programs. The following class specific elements assume that the teacher has had the most exacting Montessori teacher training course available.

SPECIFIC ELEMENTS OF MONTESSORI PHILOSOPHY ON WHICH THE EDUCATIONAL METHOD IS BASED

Multi-aged Grouping, based on Periods of Development: Children are grouped in three-year spans and have the same teacher for three to six years. There is constant interaction, problem solving, child to child teaching, and socialization.

The Human Tendencies: The practical application of the Montessori method is based on human tendencies—which Dr. Montessori studied in detail—tendencies to explore, move, share with a group, to be independent and make decisions, create order, develop self-control, abstract ideas from experience, use the creative imagination, work hard, repeat, concentrate, and perfect one's efforts and creations.

The Process of Learning: There are three stages of learning:

(Stage 1) introduction to a concept by means of a lecture, lesson, something read in a book, etc.

(Stage 2) processing the information, developing an understanding of the concept through work, experimentation, creation.

(Stage 3) "knowing", to possessing an understanding of, demonstrated by the ability to pass a test with confidence, to teach another, or to express with ease.

Stage two is the most important and the longest with its emphasis on developing, working, experimenting, creating, transforming. This enables the child to really learn and remember what he learned.

Indirect Preparation: The steps of learning any concept are so well analyzed by the adult and are systematically offered to the child. A child is always learning something that is indirectly preparing him to learn something else, making education a joyful discovery instead of drudgery.

The Prepared Environment: Since information passes from the environment directly to the child, not through the teacher, the preparation of this environment is vital. It is the role of the teacher to prepare and continue to adapt the environment, to link the child to it through well-thought-out lessons, and to

MARIA MONTESSORI

INTRODUCTION TO MONTESSORI PHILOSOPHY & PRACTICE

MARIA MONTESSORI

Book and Time Line Pictures
A Montessori teacher wrote and illustrated this book for and with her children in the 1980's. It depicts the life of Maria Montessori with words and pictures chosen by 3-6 year-old children. The text is written in English, Italian, French, Spanish, and German. Best of all, she includes a set of the twenty-seven 8" x 8", color pictures, printed on glossy paper, that can be laid out in a row making a time line of her life. The children can check the order with those same pictures in the book. We have ours laminated and in a folder on the biography shelf, next to the book. 105 pages, with childlike, color illustrations.

DH19 $26.00

MARIA MONTESSORI, TEACHER OF TEACHERS

As a little girl in Italy during the 1870's, Maria Montessori knew she was destined to do great things. She grew up to give the children of the world a precious gift—a new kind of education.

Headstrong and smart, Maria defied almost every rule of her society. At age 12, she insisted on attending a boys' technical school to study math and science, and she was the first Italian woman to become a medical doctor.

This new biography, published in 1996, tells her story in such a way that children or adults cannot put it down. It is illustrated with many black and white photos. Hardcover, 6.5" x 9," 108 pages.

EH540 $17.95
facilitate the child’s exploration and creativity. Children often surpass the level of knowledge of the teacher in all areas and learn to find answers.

Observation: Scientific observations of the child’s development are constantly carried out and recorded by the teacher. These observations are made on the level of concentration of each child, the introduction to and mastery of each piece of material, the social development, physical health, etc. on.

Work Centers: The environment is arranged according to subject area, and children always free to move around the room, and to continue to work on a piece of material with no time limit.

Teaching Method: Children learn directly from the environment, and from other children, more than from the teacher. The teacher is trained to teach one child at a time, with a few small groups and almost no lessons given to the whole class. She is facile in the basic lessons of math, language, the arts and sciences, and in guiding a child’s research and exploration, capitalizing on his interest in and excitement about a subject. Large groups occur only in the beginning of a new class, or in the beginning of the school year, and are phased out as the children gain independence.

Class size: The most successful 3-6 or 6-12 classes are of 30-35 children to one teacher, with one nonteaching assistant, this number reached gradually over 1-3 years. This provides the most variety of personalities, learning styles, and work being done at one time. This class size is possible because the children stay with the same teacher for three to six years.

Basic lessons: A well-trained Montessori teacher spends a lot of time during teacher training practicing the many basic lessons with materials in all areas. She/he must pass a written and oral exam on these lessons in order to be certified. She is trained to recognize a child’s readiness—according to age, ability, and interest—for a specific lesson, and is prepared to guide individual progress. Although the teacher plans lessons for each child for each day, she will bow to the interests of a child following a passion.

Areas of Study Linked: All subjects are interwoven. For example history, art, music, math, astronomy, biology, geology, physics, and chemistry are not isolated from each other and a child studies them in any order he chooses, moving through all in a unique way for each child. At any one time in a day all subjects—math, language, science, history, geography, art, music, etc.—will be being studied, at all levels.

The schedule: Ideally, there are two 3-hour, uninterrupted, work periods each day, not broken up by required group lessons or lessons by specialists. Adults and children respect concentration and do not interrupt someone who is busy at a task. Groups form spontaneously.

Assessment: There are no grades, or other forms of reward or punishment, subtle or overt. Assessment is by portfolio and the teacher’s observation and record keeping. The test of whether or not the system is working lies in the accomplishment and behavior of the children, their happiness, maturity, kindness, and love of learning and work.

Requirements for age 3-6: There are no academic requirements for this age, but children are exposed to amazing amounts of knowledge and often learn to read, write and calculate beyond what is usually thought possible for a child of this age.

Requirements for ages 6-18: There are no curriculum requirements except those set by the state, or college entrance requirements, for specific grades and these take a minimum amount of time. Students design 1-2 week contracts with the teacher to balance their work, and to become responsible for their own time management and education. The work of the 6-12 class includes subjects usually not introduced until high school.

Learning styles: All intelligences and styles of learning—musical, bodily-kinesthetic, spatial, interpersonal, intrapersonal, intuitive, and the traditional linguistic and logical-mathematical—are nurtured. This particular is recommended by Harvard psychologist Howard Gardner in his theory of multiple intelligences.

Character education: Education of character is considered more important than academic education. Children learn to take care of themselves, their environment, each other—cooking, cleaning, building, gardening, moving gracefully, speaking politely, being considerate and helpful, doing social work in the community, etc.

The Results of learning in this way: Dr. Montessori speaks of the first Casa dei Bambini (Children’s House) in Rome, illustrating the important discovery, and the core of all Montessori work today—when the environment meets all of the needs of children they become, without any manipulation by the adult, physically healthy, mentally and psychologically fulfilled, extremely well-educated, and brimming over with joy and kindness toward each other.

When the children had completed an absorbing bit of work, they appeared rested and deeply pleased. It almost seemed as if a road had opened up within their souls that led to all their latent powers, revealing the better part of themselves. They exhibited a great affinity to everyone, put themselves out to help others and seemed full of good will.
INTRODUCTION TO MONTESSORI PHILOSOPHY & PRACTICE

A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF DR. MARIA MONTESSORI

Maria Montessori was always ahead of her time. She was born in Italy in 1870. In her work at the University of Rome's psychiatric clinic, Dr. Montessori developed an interest in the treatment of children and for several years, wrote and spoke on their behalf. She constantly experimented and developed materials based on the needs, interests, and developing abilities of children. At age twenty-eight, Dr. Montessori became the director of a school for "unhappy little ones" which she called mentally disabled children. She spent eleven hours a day at the school, and late into the night at home, working on her work at the University of Rome's anthropology and psychology.

Montessori wanted to study the potential of mentally disabled children could be brought to the level of normal children. Dr. Montessori wanted to study the potential of "normal" children.

She went back to school to study anthropology and psychology and finally, in 1907, was asked to take charge of fifty children from the dirty, desolate streets of the San Lorenzo slum in the city of Rome. Like others I had believed that it was necessary to encourage a child by means of some exterior reward that would flatter his baser sentiments, such as gluttony, vanity, or self-love, in order to foster in him a spirit of work and peace. And I was astonished when I learned that a child who is permitted to educate himself really gives up these lower instincts. I then urged the teachers to cease handing out the ordinary prizes and punishments, which were no longer suited to our children, and to confine themselves to directing them gently in their work.

The news of her amazing success soon spread around the world and people came from far and wide to see the children for themselves. She was as surprised and awed as visitors to the Casa dei Bambini.

Supposing I said there was a planet without schools or teachers, where study was unknown, and yet the inhabitants—doing nothing but living and walking about—came to know all things, to carry in their minds the whole of learning: would you not think I was romancing? Well, just this, which seems so fanciful as to be nothing but the invention of a fertile imagination, is a reality. It is the child's way of learning. This is the path he follows. He learns everything without knowing he is learning it, and in doing so he passes little by little from the unconscious to the conscious, treading always in the paths of joy and love.

—Dr. Maria Montessori

Invited to the USA by Alexander Graham Bell, Thomas Edison, and others, Dr. Montessori made an appearance at Carnegie Hall in New York in 1915. The following is from a 1913 letter from A. Graham Bell:

Dear Dr. Montessori,

On behalf of the Montessori Educational Association of America I have the honor to inform you that we have elected you as its first Honorary member and to express to you in this way our deep appreciation of your great work for humanity.

Dr. Montessori was then invited to set up a classroom at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco so that more interested people could observe her methods. A room was built with a glass wall behind which spectators sat and watched the children. Twenty-one children, all completely new to a Montessori environment, attended for four months. The observation seats were filled every day and at noon, when the children served lunch to their classmates and washed up afterwards, there was standing room only in the audience. The two gold medals awarded for education at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition both went to the Montessori class.

After WWII Dr. Montessori's concern for education for peace intensified and she was twice nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. She instituted the study of Cosmic Education for the child from six to twelve years of age, since she could see that in meeting the needs of the child, the needs of the world would also be met. "Cosmic Education" is the child's gradual discovery, throughout the whole of childhood, of the interrelatedness of all things on earth, in the past, in the present, and in the future.

THE SECRET OF CHILDHOOD

The child has a spontaneous urge to learn! An understanding of this simple secret led to the development of what we know of as the Montessori method. Here Dr. Montessori explains her ideas on the newborn, free choice, rewards and punishments, discipline, deviations from normal behavior, the conflict between the adult and the child. She also discusses the array of materials and techniques needed to release the learning potential of the child. Softcover, 216 pages.

GB43 $5.99

LARGE MONTESSORI PRINT

Here is one of our favorite images of Maria Montessori and this lovely full color print hangs in the entrance of many Montessori schools. It is made from an oil painting of Dr. Montessori. The background is black and the image in color. The quote at the bottom is: Within the child lies the fate of the Future." The dimensions are 18" x 24." (* ) GB175 $20.00

MONTESSORI NOTECARDS

The image on these full color note cards is the same as on the Montessori poster. Each card comes with a white envelope and the inside is blank, so they can be used for any occasion. The cards come as a set of twelve. Size: 4.5" x 6." (* ) GB176 $15.00

USA Toll Free ORDER Number 888.880.9235 101
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**ORDER FORM**

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ESSENTIAL MONTESSORI WHOLESALE DISCOUNT

Michael Olaf publications (The Joyful Child, age 0-3; Child of the World, age 3-12+) retail for $5.00 each. For ten or more copies they are available at the wholesale discount of $2.50 per copy (and tax if the order is being sent to an address within California.)
GIFTS: Your order can be sent gift wrapped in beautiful recycled paper ($2 per item), with your message handwritten on a card ($1.50). Or we can include a card which you send us with your gift order for no additional charge. Note: furniture, brooms, wheelbarrow, and other oversize items cannot be giftwrapped.

Your gift message:

CATALOGUE SPECIAL

Michael Olaf publications are used as books, as guides for raising and educating children, at least as much as they are used as catalogues for ordering products.

Many organizations place wholesale orders for members, and parents order them for friends and relatives.

As a Thank You to the many customers who are placing bulk orders of Michael Olaf publications to share with friends, relatives, schools, and organizations, we offer a special price: five (5) Essential Montessori publications for $13 + shipping and applicable tax. This is a savings of $12.00 over the regular price.

You may order either the Joyful Child (age 0-3) or the Child of the World (age 3-12+), or any combination of these two. Just fill in the "Catalogue Special" line on the other side of this order form to select the number and versions that you would like to order.

$25 GIFT CERTIFICATES

A wonderful introduction to Montessori, and a gift for any occasion, is a twenty-five dollar gift certificate and a copy of either Joyful Child (birth-3) or Child of the World (age 3-12), usually five dollars each. This is like sending a thirty dollar gift.

Michael Olaf gift certificates are available in $25 denominations and can be redeemed for anything in the catalogue.

Phone us, or order "gift certificate only" on the order form (adding no shipping or tax). We will immediately send the gift certificate and free copy of one of our publications to the person of your choice. The Child of the World (3-12) will be sent unless you specify otherwise.

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CUSTOMER COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS

Michael Olaf has grown and changed over the years largely due to input from our customers. We value your ideas, comments, questions, and suggestions. Please help us to serve you better by answering the following questions.

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PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

AUTHOR OF

CHILD OF THE WORLD

Susan Mayclin Stephenson

The education and work experience:
Undergraduate studies,
Study aboard the Semester at Sea program, study and travel around the world on a ship.
In Philosophy, San Francisco State University
MA in Education, Loyola College in Baltimore
AMI Montessori 0-3 Diploma, TMI, Denver & Rome
AMI Montessori 3-6 Diploma, MMTO, London
AMI Montessori 6-12 Diploma, WMI, Wash., DC
Undergraduate, graduate, and extensions classes:
Denison University, Stanford University, U.C.,
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and the Alliance Francaise in Paris.

Founder: The Petoskey Montessori Children’s
House, Michigan. Teacher: Colegio San Silvestre,
(Lima Peru), Montessori School (St. Croix, USVI),
and schools in San Francisco, and Marin County, CA.

Mrs. Stephenson is a writer, homeschooling
parent, webmaster, and staff member of The
Montessori Institute in Denver, Colorado. She has
spoken at conferences and training centers around the
world.

FALL FUNDRAISER

This is a no-work fundraiser for any organization to run in the fall. We often have requests from parents to invite their child’s infant community to participate! You must enroll during the previous year.

A minimum of 25 catalogues is purchased for a special low fundraiser price. The participating families place individual orders directly with us which are sent to their home. 10% of the total orders is returned to the organization in credit for Michael Olaf materials.

RHYTHM OF THE EARTH

MONTESSORI T-SHIRT

The beautifully colored logo of plants, animals, people, the earth and the sea, says “Feel the Rhythm of the Earth—Dance the Song of Life.” A true child of the earth is one whose environment supports her ability to stay in touch with her true self and her natural rhythms of living, so that she may indeed dance the song of life.

The color is heather gray which hides dirt and shows the colors of the logo very clearly. Short-sleeved 100% preshrunk cotton t-shirts. The children’s sizes have the words “Montessori Child” printed on the back. The adult shirts say “Montessori” on the front.

TS05 T-Shirt, Child small $14.95
TS03 T-Shirt, Child medium $14.95
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For any order, at any time, of 25 or more children’s or adult’s t-shirts of any size you will receive a 20% discount. Take the discount of the order form before adding tax and shipping, or order by phone and we will do it for you. You may resell the shirts at any price. Michael Olaf needs 6 weeks advance notice for orders of this size. We are unable to personalize shirts with the name of a school.
Scientific observation has established that education is not what the teacher gives; education is a natural process spontaneously carried out by the human individual, and is acquired not by listening to words but by experiences upon the environment.

The task of the teacher becomes that of preparing a series of motives of cultural activity, spread over a specially prepared environment, and then refraining from obtrusive interference.

Human teachers can only help the great work that is being done, as servants help the master. Doing so, they will be witnesses to the unfolding of the human soul and to the rising of a New Man who will not be a victim of events, but will have the clarity of vision to direct and shape the future of human society.

—Maria Montessori,
*Education for a New World*

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Many of us constantly refer to Michael Olaf's Essential Montessori as an extremely valuable parenting book. At first I wanted to keep this great information to myself to hoard it for my own children, but gradually I came to the realization that in sharing this wisdom with other parents we all benefit. It will bring us all to a new level of consciousness. Thank you for the very important work that you do.

—Eve Lubowe, mother

The text of Michael Olaf's Essential Montessori is the best brief description of Montessori I've come across and you have wonderful things for parents to choose for their children. I gave a copy to each family in our school as a part of their information packet.

—Karin Salzmann, founding director of AMI/USA (Association Montessori Internationale of the United States)

There is no need to wade through piles of catalogues to find quality books and toys—just get a copy of Michael Olaf's Essential Montessori. Best of all it is filled with Montessori philosophy for all ages, practical advice and the wisdom of experience. I think Essential Montessori is essential reading for every Montessori teacher and parent.

—Pam Shand, MONTESSORI NEWZ

Newsletter of the Montessori Association of New Zealand

For the first time my class looks like what one reads about in the Montessori books instead of a traditional group-taught preschool. I cannot thank you enough for providing your lecture reprint on the 3-HOUR WORK PERIOD. (See page 97.)

—Montessori 3-6 Teacher

Dear Susan, If there is anything I am ever able to do for you, please do not hesitate to contact me. I hope I will have the pleasure of seeing you again in the future, as our meeting was too brief. You are inspiring as an individual as well as an educator. Again thank you.

—Karan Young, Montessori teacher and administrator, St. Petersburg and Moscow, Russia

I have a greater understanding of Montessori education from reading your catalogue than I have gotten from my various readings about Montessori practice and philosophy. Thank you for centering Montessori principles on the needs of children and families.

—Patrick Farenga, editor, Growing Without Schooling

This collection is full of plain stuff, reliable stuff, wise stuff.

—Kevin Kelly, Editor, Whole Earth Review

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**Child of the World**

*Michael Olaf's Essential Montessori for Ages 3-12+*

US $5.00 ISBN: 1-879264-06-4

**CONTENTS:**

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- The international source of basic books and materials for exceptional educational environments—science, math, language, history, geography, music, and art
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