



Suggested Materials List Early Childhood

The American Montessori Society School Accreditation Commission and the AMS Teacher Education Action Commission offer you this list of suggested learning materials for the Early Childhood classroom. The intent of this checklist is to provide Montessori schools and teacher education programs with a list of traditional, developmentally-appropriate materials and activities that students ages 2 ½ through 6 years are generally expected to have available in their classrooms. This list is comprehensive but not exclusive or prescriptive and teachers may also present other activities.

Practical Life, Arts and Crafts	
	Grace and Courtesy (greetings, please, thank you, sorry, interrupting, etc.)
	Walking on a Line
	Rolling and unrolling a rug
	Moving Furniture
	Sequence of Pouring activities (incl. solids and liquids)
	Sequence of Scooping/Spooning activities
	Sequence of Squeezing activities (e.g. sponge/baster/clothespins/tongs/tweezers)
	Sequence of Threading activities
	Sequence of Twisting activities (bottles & caps, nuts & bolts, etc.)
	Sequence of Folding activities
	Sweeping activities (broom, dustpan & brush, table brush & pan)
	Mopping the floor (mop and bucket)
	Scrubbing a table / chair
	Washing a window (or mirror)
	Sequence of Polishing activities (mirror/wood/metal)
	Watering a plant
	Flower arranging
	Feeding an animal
	Dressing Frame- Buttons
	Dressing Frame- Zipper
	Dressing Frame- Buckles
	Dressing Frame- Lacing
	Dressing Frame- Bow-tying
	Nose-blowing
	Hand-washing
	Clothes/Towel- Washing
	Ironing
	Sequence of Food Preparation and Serving activities
	Dish-washing
	Outdoor Gardening activities (e.g. raking, weeding, planting, watering, harvesting)
	Play Dough (or Clay)
	Crayons
	Sequence of Pasting/Glue activities
	Sequence of Scissor Cutting activities



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Practical Life, Arts and Crafts	
	Sequence of Brush Painting activities
	Sequence of Sewing / Weaving activities

Sensorial	
	Cylinder Blocks (Knobbed Cylinders) – 4 blocks
	Pink Tower (Tower of Cubes)
	Brown Stair (Broad Stair)
	Red Rods (Long Rods)
	Knobless Cylinders – 4 boxes
	Color Tablets – Box I
	Color Tablets – Box II
	Color Tablets – Box III
	Geometric Cabinet w/ Demonstration Tray and 3 sets of cards
	Constructive Triangles – 5 Boxes: Triangle, Large Hexagon, Small Hexagon, Rectangle, Blue
	Geometric Solids and Bases
	Binomial Cube
	Trinomial Cube
	Sound Boxes (Sounds Cylinder)
	Bell Material w/ mallet and damper
	Rough and Smooth Boards – 2 or 3 boards
	Rough Gradation Tablets (Touch Tablets)
	Fabric matching (Touch Fabrics)
	Mystery Bag (Stereognostic)
	Baric Tablets
	Thermic Bottles
	Smelling Bottles
	Tasting exercise
	Sequence of Sorting activities (by size, color, shape, etc.)
	Silence Game

Math	
	Red and Blue Rods (Number Rods and Numerals)
	Sandpaper Numerals
	Spindle Boxes
	Numerals and Counters (Cards and Counters / Odds and Evens)
	Memory Game
	Golden Beads - Intro to Decimal Quantity (One Tray)
	Golden Beads - Large and Small Numeral cards
	Golden Beads - Intro to Decimal System (Nine Tray/Function of the Decimal System)



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Math	
	Golden Beads - Four Operations (Addition, Multiplication, Subtraction, Division)
	Stamp Game
	Teen Boards (Séguin Boards) and Beads
	Tens Boards (Séguin Boards) and Beads
	Hundred Board
	Short Bead Stair
	Short Bead Chains (Square chains) w/ squares and arrows
	Long Bead Chains (Cube chains) w/ cubes and arrows
	Addition Snake Game
	Addition w/ Bead Bars
	Multiplication w/ Bead Bars
	Addition Strip Board and Tables
	Subtraction Strip Board and Tables
	Multiplication Board and Tables
	Unit Division Board and Tables
	Addition Working Charts (Finger Charts, etc.)
	Subtraction Working Charts (Finger Charts, etc.)
	Multiplication Working Charts (Finger Charts, etc.)
	Division Working Charts (Finger Charts, etc.)
	Multiplication w/ Bead Bars

Language	
	Oral language development activities (Sharing news, fingerplays, songs, stories, etc.)
	Child library area w/ fiction and non-fiction picture books
	Picture/Object matching
	Picture/Picture matching
	Classified Three Part cards (Pictures, labels, control cards)
	Classified Picture cards for vocabulary and sorting by category
	Phonemic awareness activities w/ objects or pictures (e.g. I-Spy)
	Metal Insets w/ pencils, pencil holders, trays, paper
	Sandpaper Letters
	Sand Tray
	Large Movable Alphabet - composition of words and phrases
	Small chalkboards or whiteboards for writing
	Writing Sequence
	Comprehensive writing program
	Object Box I: Intro to reading phonetic words
	Picture/word matching - phonetic
	Object Box II: Intro to reading words w/ phonograms
	Double Sandpaper Letters



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Language	
	Picture/word matching - w/phonograms
	Silent 'e
	Puzzle Words (for English)
	Environmental Labels
	Action Commands
	Series of Phonics-based Readers

Cultural (Geography, History, Natural, and Physical Sciences)	
	Land and Water Forms
	Land and Water Forms Three Part Cards and Definitions
	Globe of Land and Water (Sandpaper Globe)
	Globe of the Continents (Continents Globe)
	Puzzle Map - World Parts (Hemispheres)
	Puzzle Map - North America
	Puzzle Map - South America
	Puzzle Map - Europe
	Puzzle Map - Asia
	Puzzle Map - Africa
	Puzzle Map - Australia
	Puzzle Map - A country e.g. USA, Mexico, Canada, Japan, China
	Tool and felt pad for pin-pricking maps
	Packets of Pictures for Continents / Countries
	Flags
	Calendar
	Clock
	Classification: Living/Non-Living picture cards
	Classified Picture Cards - Animals
	Classified Picture Cards - Plants
	Classification: Animal/Plant picture cards
	Parts of a Horse (mammal)
	Parts of a Bird
	Parts of a Turtle (reptile)
	Parts of a Frog (amphibian)
	Parts of a Fish
	Botany Cabinet (leaf shapes) and cards
	Parts of a Plant (tree)
	Parts of a Flower
	Parts of a Leaf
	Sink/Float activity
	Magnetic/Non-magnetic activity



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Cultural (Geography, History, Natural, and Physical Sciences)	
	Solid to Liquid to Gas activity
	Peace Education materials



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In addition to the Montessori materials, a quality Montessori school has the following...

Practical Life, Arts and Crafts	
	Large motor i.e. woodworking

Sensorial	
	Sorting activities by size and color
	Photographs/Illustrations of building using the following materials
	Cylinder Blocks (Knobbed Cylinders) – 4 blocks
	Pink Tower (Tower of Cubes)
	Brown Stair (Broad Stair)
	Red Rods (Long Rods)
	Knobless Cylinders – 4 boxes
	Color Tablets – Box II
	Color Mixing
	Picture Cards or Matching Geometric solids in real life
	Geo Boards
	Pattern Blocks

Math	
	Numeral Cards
	Dot Game
	Equation Cards (static and dynamic)
	Fractions
	Fraction Circles (Insets)
	Fraction Skittles
	Money Coin recognition
	Money Activities

Language	
	Object Boxes (match initial sounds)
	Objects to be spelled using the Movable Alphabet
	Pictures to be spelled using the Moveable Alphabet
	Composing Words
	Vocabulary Activities
	Non-phonetic reading books
	Easy Readers
	Poetry
	Mini environments e.g. farm/phonetic
	Mini environments e.g. farm/non-phonetic



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In addition to the Montessori materials, a quality Montessori school has the following...

Language	
	Farm or equivalent for intro to grammar
	Grammar Symbols
	Nouns
	Verbs
	Article
	Adjectives

Cultural (Geography, History, Natural and Physical Sciences)	
	Directions – North, South, East, West
	Cultural Artifacts
	Cultural Explorations of the World (e.g. Continents, Countries, Clothing, *Food, Landmarks, Traditions)
	Observation of Seasons Activities
	Study of Clocks, Learning Time
	Time Activities
	Timeline of a Child's Life
	Timeline of a Day
	Artists and History of Art
	Art Materials (various mediums and techniques)
	Musical Instruments
	History Activities
	Nomenclature Cards (cultural)
	Life Cycle of an Animal (e.g. frog, fish)
	Life Cycle of a Plant (e.g. pumpkin, seed)