



the growing place

MONTESSORI

SERVING TODDLERS-EARLY ELEMENTARY

- * Beautiful location near the intersection of Poway Road and Pomerado Road
- * Secure facilities with personalized electronic access
- * Safe, nurturing environment
- * Large one-way observation windows in each classroom
- * Self-paced Montessori curriculum
- * Regular one-on-one instruction
- * Low student to teacher ratios
- * Moral & ethical education; fostering respect for oneself, others and the community
- * Ongoing parent support and education
- * Multiple extracurricular activities offered
- * Extended day care available

(858) 679-1554

www.thegrowingplace.net

The Growing Place Montessori offers equal opportunity education to families regardless of national origin, ancestry, creed, gender, sexual orientation, age, or disability.

New to Montessori?

Our philosophy is based on that of Dr. Maria Montessori, a turn-of-the-century educator and child advocate. Simply put, Montessori revolutionized the world's understanding of the way children learn. In her work, she observed that children naturally absorb knowledge and information from the world around them, and are anxious to practice their growing skills. She created a rich curriculum based on her findings, and introduced what are now universally accepted teaching methods and materials, such as individualized learning and the use of child-sized furniture and materials.



The Growing Place Montessori was co-created by a mother-son team that drew upon their experience in public, private, and Montessori school systems. Years later, our staff is comprised of trained, experienced and loving Montessori certified teachers who work hand-in-hand with and as an extension of this founding family.

Using Dr. Maria Montessori's insightful research and methodology, we recognize and respect the unique characteristics of children in each plane of development and cooperate with their natural interests.

The Growing Place Montessori is a community of learners—parents, children, staff—actively engaged in what Maria Montessori called "an education to life." Although we represent a rich diversity of backgrounds and opinions, we share a commitment to the values underlying our special approach to learning.

In a typical Montessori environment, you'll observe:

- * Quiet, calm, peaceful classrooms
- * Mixed-age groupings that encourage children to lead and help one another
- * Clean, aesthetically pleasing, and organized learning environments
- * Environment and methodology that encourages self-discipline
- * Teachers have an unobtrusive role and lead by example
- * Teachers offer encouragement and support when needed, and do not use punitive methods of discipline
- * Mainly individual instruction, with some small and large group lessons
- * Students discover academic concepts from self-teaching materials that help them recognize their own errors
- * Curriculum follows students' interests, collectively and individually
- * Consideration of the *whole* child, as opposed to a narrow focus on academics
- * Students choose their own work and set their own learning pace
- * Students work as long as they wish on chosen activities
- * Students reinforce learning through repetition and internal feelings of success
- * Use of multi-sensory materials for physical exploration, often providing concrete representation of abstract concepts
- * Organized curriculum for learning manners, care of self and environment
- * Parents are encouraged to volunteer in a meaningful way in the classroom

Our Academic Programs



Our **Pre-Primary** Program serves the needs of students aged 18-36 months, offering a spring board for Montessori education. In a carefully prepared and intimate setting,

our nurturing caregivers focus on furthering the interests of each unique child, with emphasis on developing trust and confidence. As children develop independence, basic concepts such as language, manners, social skills, and self-care are introduced. As they demonstrate readiness, students are gradually introduced by a familiar caregiver to the Primary environment.



Our **Primary** program serves children between the ages of two-and-a-half and six who have demonstrated an

appropriate level of development. In this environment, we work with parents to nurture the growth of the child's independence.

This is where students' academic careers begin to blossom. In the Primary classroom there are four major areas of study: practical life, sensorial, language, and mathematics. By integrating these fundamental concepts using strategic materials and methods, we foster the self-discipline and curiosity that inspire a lifelong interest in learning.



Our **Elementary** program flows seamlessly from our Primary program, using familiar concrete materials

and strategies to further the child's understanding of increasingly complex and abstract ideas. While focusing on the individual, this program introduces children to the inter-relatedness of the universe and their roles within it. Children develop a sense of community and respect for others through group experiences, problem-solving, and conflict resolution. Fundamental social and abstract reasoning skills are modeled and instructed. The elementary program encourages the student to independently explore his own academic interests, meanwhile integrating essential core subjects and skills to meet and exceed state standards.

A Closer Look at "Montessori"

The term "Montessori" is not a trademark name and simply refers to the application of teaching methods devised by Italian physician Maria Montessori at the beginning of the 20th century. Though different Montessori schools will share similarities, each school is independent.

A few organizations exist that certify and recognize Montessori schools. Such accreditation often gives parents peace of mind that certain standards of quality are being met. Unfortunately, most organizations require exclusive affiliation and adherence to their interpretation of Montessori principles.

At The Growing Place Montessori, we feel that each interpretation of Montessori's philosophy has something unique to offer. We value the diverse and rich ways that many of the professional Montessori organizations train teachers, and we welcome instructors from different Montessori backgrounds. For this reason, we decline affiliation or accreditation by such associations.



For additional information, please visit www.thegrowingplace.net

Some of the information herein courtesy of the American Montessori Society.

Which Montessori School Is Right for You?

Dr. Maria Montessori's revolutionary observations and practices have given way to a myriad of "Montessori" schools. Although most of these schools try to remain faithful to their understanding of Dr. Montessori's insights and research in the early twentieth century, we have all been understandably influenced by today's evolution of culture and technology. Therefore, the interpretation and application of Montessori's ideas can be drastically different from school to school.

If you find yourself drawn to this amazing method of cultivating children and their unique personalities, perhaps the most relevant question in selecting a Montessori school is to consider how well it matches your sense of what you want for your child. No one educational approach can be right for every learner. The wisest goal is to seek out the best fit, not only between the student and the school, but also between the parents' values and goals for their child's education and what a given school can realistically deliver. We believe that finding the right school for the family is as important as finding the right school for the child.

While the advice of others can be helpful in narrowing your options, in the end, the selection of a Montessori school comes down to a matter of personal style and preference. Trust your eyes, ears, and gut instincts. Rely on your own experience and draw your own conclusions.

Our only request is that you carefully consider The Growing Place Montessori among your options. Parent references are available. Please call today for a personal guided tour of our facility.

(858) 679-1554
www.thegrowingplace.net

ADMISSION APPLICATION

(To be completed by parent or legal guardian only)

Student Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Desired Enrollment Date: _____

Sponsor (S) Name: _____

Relationship to Child: _____

Co-Sponsor (CS) Name: _____

Relationship to Child: _____

Child's Home Address: _____

Alternate Address (if applicable): S CS

Home Phone: _____

Alternate Phone 1: S CS

Alternate Phone 2: S CS

Alternate Phone 3: S CS

Alternate Phone 4: S CS

eMail Address 1: S CS

eMail Address 2: S CS

Please indicate the program(s) in which you are interested:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Primary (18-36 mo.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Half days |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Primary (2.5-6 yrs.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Full days |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elementary (5-9 yrs) | <input type="checkbox"/> Extended Day Care |

Submission of this application requires payment of a one-time non-refundable \$150 registration fee. Your child will then be placed on a waiting list for enrollment if space is not currently available. As space becomes available, a place will be held for your child only upon receipt of an Enrollment Agreement and the applicable materials fee. For details, see posted Enrollment Information; call 858-679-1554, option "0"; or visit our web site at www.thegrowingplace.net.

I understand the above and have completed this form as accurately as possible. By signing below, I am agreeing to the terms herein and indicating my intent to enroll my child in The Growing Place Montessori pending availability.

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____