



Checklist

For Your Montessori School Visit

Be sure to spend some time in an AMI Montessori classroom as well as in other areas of the school where children are present. **Use this checklist to help you assess the Montessori difference!**

- The environment is organized and attractive
- The teacher acts as a guide and does very little with the whole group “at the front of the room”
- Multi-sensory, hands-on materials are in regular use
- Each child has an opportunity to choose work that interests him/her
- The emphasis is on learning by doing and social development rather than drills, memorization, or finding information only to answer specific questions
- A child may work as long as he/she wants on an interesting challenge without being stopped by a bell
- The child is allowed to choose a favorite spot to work instead of being restricted to a desk and seat
- Children are encouraged to teach, collaborate, and help each other
- The children have a regular opportunity to work with children of different ages
- The teachers and staff show respect for the children
- Children are respectful of the teacher and the environment
- The school encourages internal self-discipline rather than the teacher acting as primary enforcer of rules
- Learning is its own reward, not motivated by prizes and extrinsic rewards
- The children are calm, concentrated, and joyful