

# *Welcome to*



*The*  
**MONTESSORI**  
*Children's Academy*

## ***Our Mission***

*The Montessori Children's Academy (MCA) is committed to inspiring and motivating young children to learn by providing the finest Montessori educational experience. Using traditional Montessori methods, we provide a developmentally challenging, yet appropriate learning environment that engages children's natural curiosity and helps them to develop a lifelong love of learning. We respect, nurture, and expand the academic, social, and emotional gifts of each student while preserving the true spirit and purpose of childhood.*



## **Chatham Campus**

286 Main Street, Chatham, NJ 07928

Tel: (973) 665 0071

Fax: (973) 665 0081

Hours: 8:00AM–4:00PM



## **Florham Park Campus**

Florham Park Campus  
144 Ridgedale Avenue, Florham Park, NJ 07932  
Tel: (973) 377 2560  
Hours: 8:00AM–5:30PM





## **Short Hills Campus**

200 Hartshorn Drive, Short Hills, NJ 07078

Tel: (973) 258 1400

Fax: (973) 258 1430

Hours: 8:00AM–4:00PM

# MCA Outdoor Spaces

A view of our Outdoor Classroom located at the MCA Short Hills Campus



MCA has enclosed outdoor play spaces at each campus (Chatham pictured)





# A peek into the world of Montessori at MCA...



During the 3-hour work cycle, children choose from a variety of 'works' prepared for them on our classroom shelves. They may work at a table or at a work rug on the floor, depending on the activity they are doing.



# Montessori Practical Life Area





Practical Life promotes the development of self-care, care of the environment, and care of others. Children learn skills necessary for everyday life activities, as well as concentration, organization, and fine motor skills, which are important for learning and success in the academic areas.



Our students love the various water pouring and food preparation activities. These seemingly simple activities actually involve the practice of many skills, including cleaning up, and provide children with skills that allow them to become wonderful helpers in their kitchens at home!





Shoe polishing is a multi-step activity which requires planning and organization. Activities in Practical Life often change with the seasons, as with this sunflower tweezing work.



# Montessori Sensorial Area



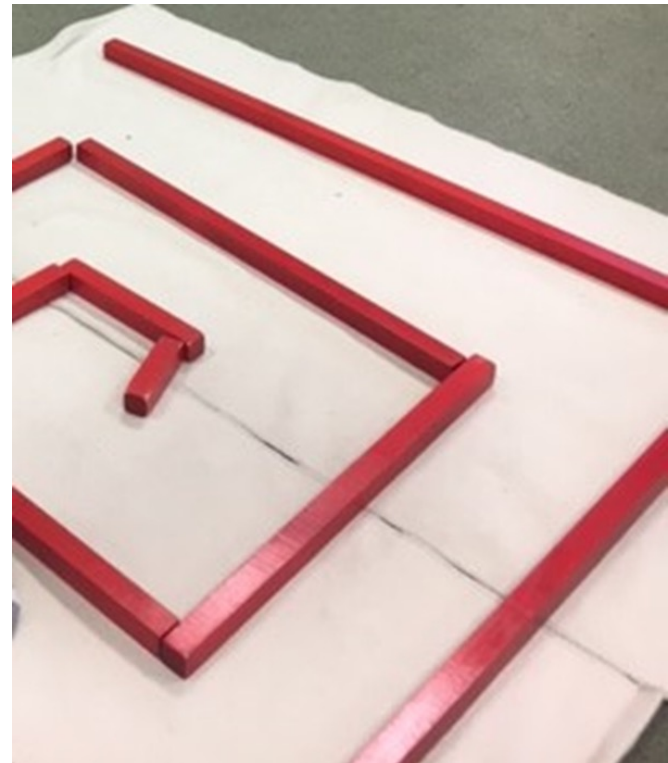
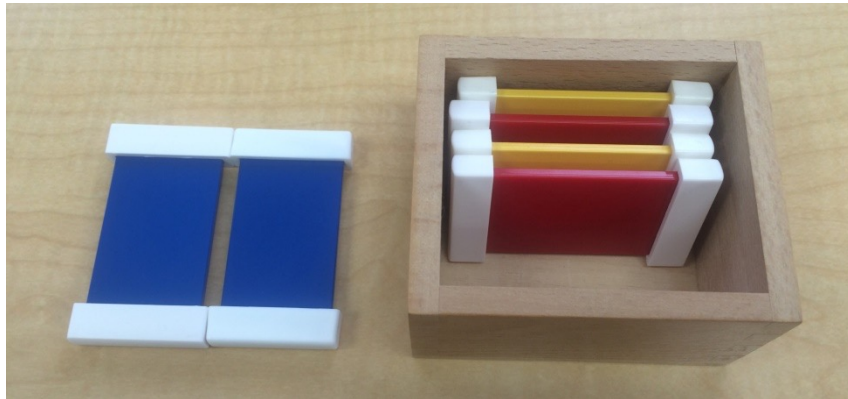


Sensorial works help children learn through their senses of smell, touch, hearing, sight, and taste, as they order, distinguish, and explore the materials.



Montessori Color Tablets begin with the three primary colors and move to materials involving the spectrum of colors in many shades.

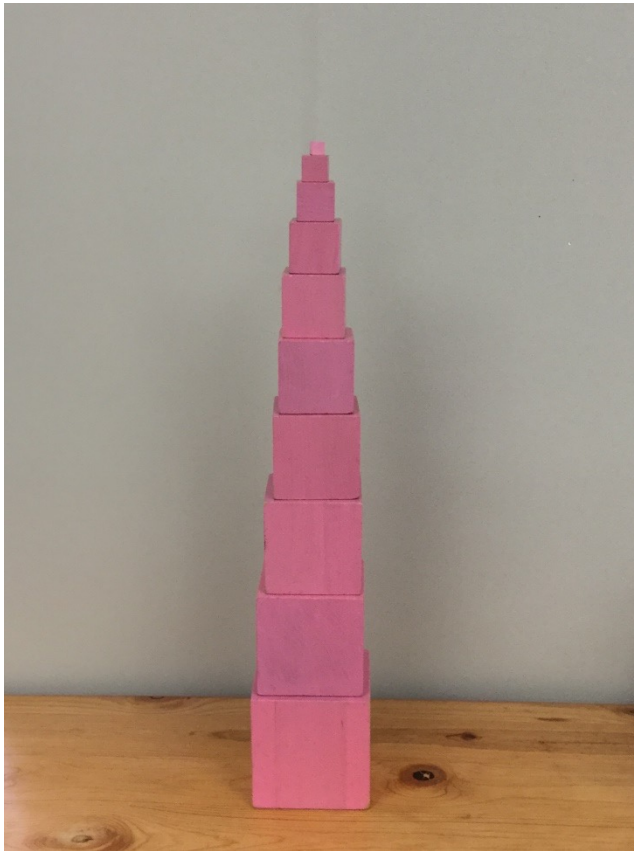
The Red Rods, a favorite among students who may build a 'maze' to walk through with slow, careful movements, is a precursor to the Math area.



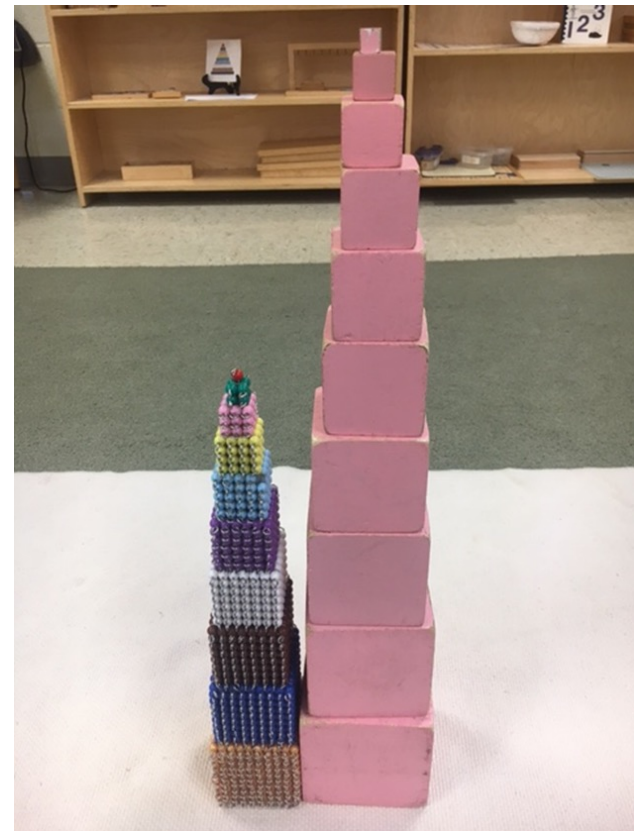


# The Infamous Pink Tower and the Montessori Bead Cubes

Perhaps one of the most recognizable of Montessori materials is the Pink Tower. Made of 10 cubes increasing in size, this material grows with children as they are ready.



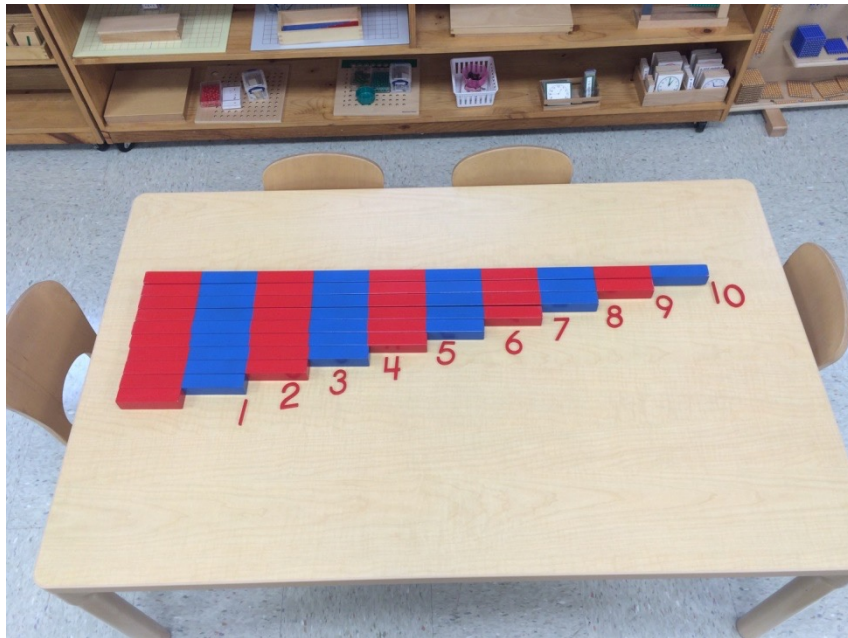
First, they learn to distinguish the progression from largest to smallest with the Pink Tower. When ready, they eventually learn about the mathematical concept of cubing.



# The Montessori Math Area



Students work through a progression of materials as they are ready, with an emphasis on repetition of lessons to reinforce learning and mastery.





# Montessori Bead Materials

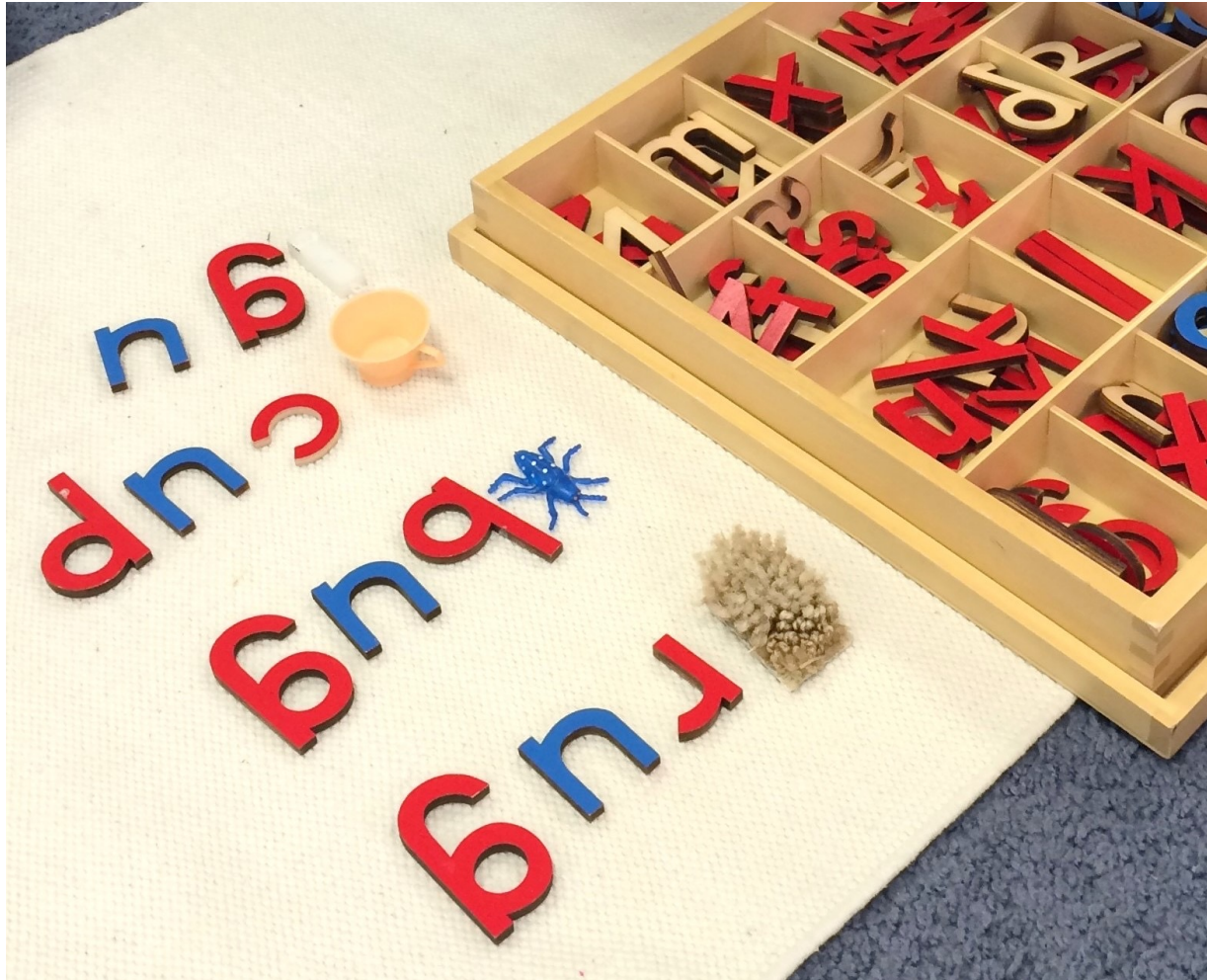


Montessori Math works allow children to move from the concrete to the abstract, and children apply real-life lessons as they count Bake Sale proceeds for their charity!





# The Montessori Language Area





Montessori Metal Insets are used to help children formulate skills needed for handwriting, while at the same time learning vocabulary for shapes.



The Montessori Sandpaper Letters assist in teaching children the sounds letters make, along with a tactile component of feeling the shape of the letters.



# Montessori Cultural Area (Science, Geography, World Cultures)

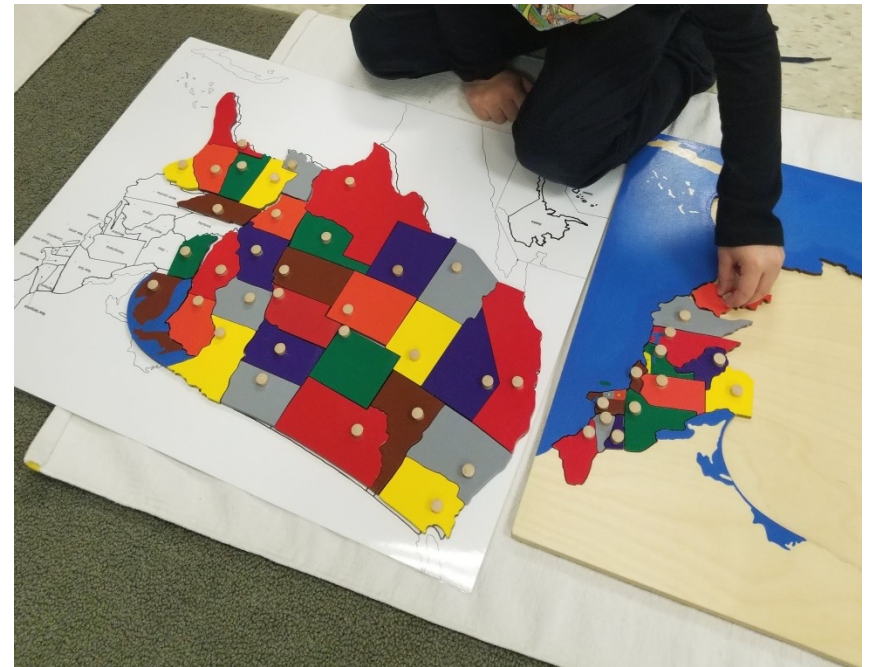
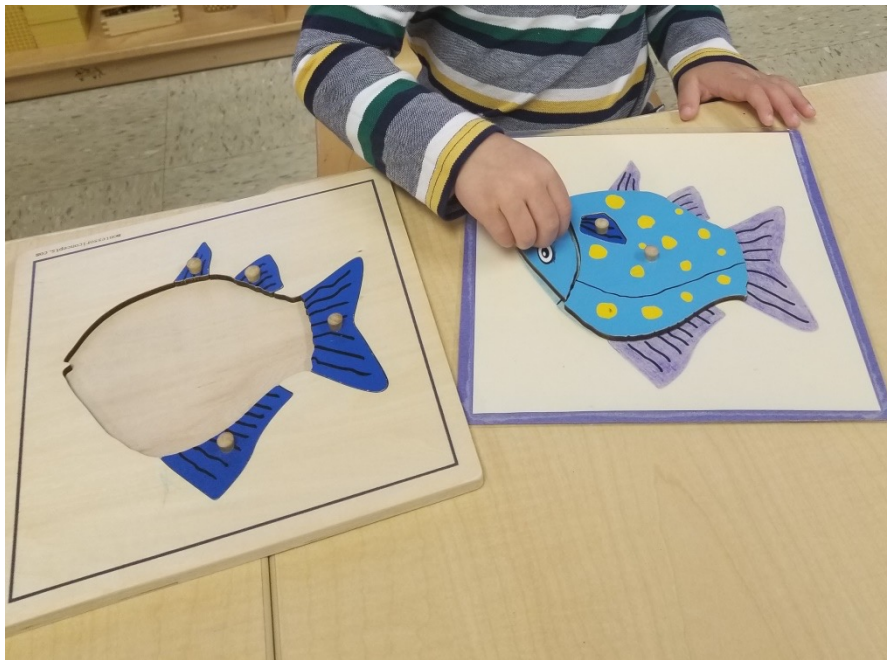




Students learn about the continents, countries, land and water forms, world flags, and more!



Exploration of the parts of animals and plants, along with discovery of continents, countries, and cultures, all are part of the Cultural area.





# Student extension activities for Cultural celebrations and map work.





# Montessori Peace Curriculum

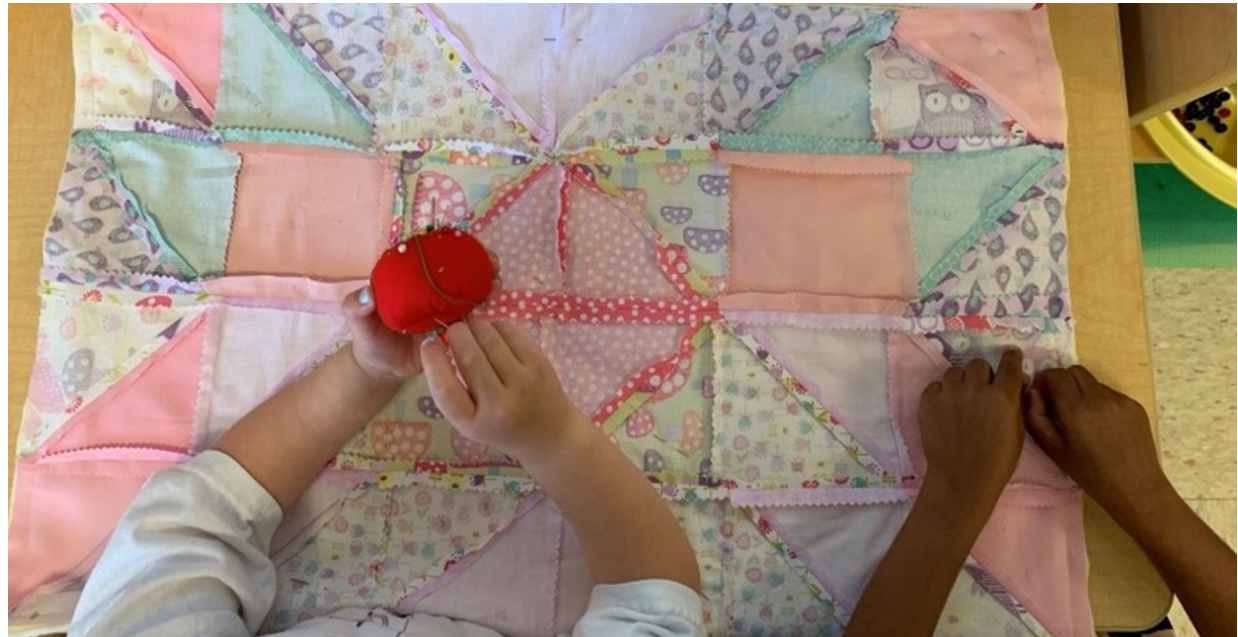


Students find a quiet place for meditative movement, concentration, exploration, and joy in the Peace area!



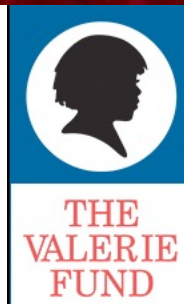


Children participate in many meaningful and engaging activities, including those which enhance Montessori lessons through extensions in art, classroom celebrations, and much more.





MCA learning experiences reach beyond the classroom and out into our communities in a variety of ways. Here are just some of the organizations MCA has helped through various charitable endeavors over the years.



MCA is proud to display student work at local libraries during our annual celebration of Montessori Education Week each March!











Thank you for joining us on this slideshow 'tour' of our Montessori environments. We hope you enjoyed this brief peek into our classrooms, and we look forward to welcoming you in person soon!

Read more about all of the branches of The Montessori Children's Academy Family of Schools and Services on our website, including:

