

How to Use this Book

Knowledge of the Montessori method is helpful, but not necessary for using this art curriculum. Everything you need to know is included in the art lessons and in special sections. The supplies needed for each lesson are listed. Plan ahead at least two weeks and assemble all the supplies needed. Read each lesson completely and practice it at least once before demonstrating.

Section 11- Montessori Lessons Used in this Curriculum is included for anyone not familiar with these basic Montessori lessons.

This book is organized so that it may be used a number of ways. Find out what works best for you. References are made throughout the book to go to certain section for a lesson or for more information. I suggest you put a flag on the Table of Contents page for easy reference.

The book is divided into two parts. Part 1 contains valuable information for setting up the art area, lists of materials and art supplies, a list of items to collect and request as donations from parents, recipes for art materials, definitions of art terms used in this book, and guidelines on how to give a demonstration.

Part 2 contains the actual lessons.

Section 1 of Part 2 introduces the Six Elements of Art- Texture, Line, Shape, Color, Space, and Form using simple and fun art activities.

Section 2 goes further to explore the Principles of Design- Repetition, Pattern, Balance, Rhythm & Movement, Gradation, Harmony & Unity, Contrast, and Variety.

Section 3 contains art lessons categorized by process such as folding, cutting, collage, rubbing, stenciling, resist painting, easel painting, stamping, monoprinting and block printing.

Section 4 contains art lessons categorized by medium or material. Some examples of medium are tempera, watercolors, oil pastels, clay, colored pencils, and crayons.

Section 5 has three dimensional art such as 3-D collage, quilling, assemblage, construction, mobile, stabile, transformations, and clay modeling such as pinch pot and clay coiling. Find both 3-D materials and 3-D process in this section.

In Section 6 reuse various materials to create recycled art, both 2 and 3 dimensional.

Section 7 contains art lessons using the works of famous artists as inspiration and as an introduction to the various innovations, concepts, styles, and techniques of the artists.

Section 8 explores the world through the art of each culture.

Section 9 tells where to find holiday, seasonal, and other art lessons elsewhere in the book.

Section 10 is a complete 12-month art curriculum as presented in *A Guide for the Montessori Classroom* by the same author but with more details such as a monthly list of supplies. The day by day art activities include the introduction of the elements of art, basic art processes, holiday and seasonal art, world and culture based art, art and artists, and theme-based art. The theme-based art combines the basic art processes and materials with themes. Art is used as a teaching tool for various subjects as well as being a creative experience. Processes such as cutting, printing, stenciling, and modeling are used in activities that further develop a particular theme or concept. It may be used in the sequence given or you may pick and choose and rearrange as desired to use in an existing curriculum. It may be used independently or in combination with the matching curriculum guides.