PRECISION OF LANGUAGE

The convention in the Montessori environment is to speak with precision of language and clear enunciation. Fewer words are sometimes spoken, but they are spoken slowly and distinctly so that the child can comprehend them. Further, precise language is used.

A. Ground Rules

1. Please, push in your stool.
2. Please, return your material to the shelf.
3. Please, walk.
4. Please, keep all your materials on the rug.
5. Please, keep all your materials on the table top.
6. Please, carry the material with two hands.
7. Please, walk around the rug.

B. Names of the Materials

1. Practical Life exercises.
2. Sensorial exercises.

Note: The adult names the materials:

1. Do you wish to use the __________?
2. This is the __________.
3. May I help you with __________?
The Sensorial materials are particularly important in enrichment in the use of comparisons and superlatives in the child’s vocabulary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Adjectives</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pink Cubes:</td>
<td>small, smaller,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>smallest, large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>larger, largest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brown Prisms:</td>
<td>thin, thinner,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>thinnest, thick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>thicker, thickest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tactile Tablets:</td>
<td>rough, rougher,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>roughest, smooth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>smoother, smoothest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baric Tablets:</td>
<td>light, lighter,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>lightest, heavy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>heavier, heaviest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Color Tablets:</td>
<td>red, yellow,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>blue, orange,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>green, purple,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>pink, gray, brown</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>black, white</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geometric Cabinet:</td>
<td>circle, square</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
HISTORY ACTIVITIES

History in the Montessori environment begins with the concept of time.

Day and night are the first concepts for the passage of time.

Time between activities in the environment establishes the passage of time.

1. The Seasons of the Year:
   - spring
   - summer
   - autumn
   - winter

2. The Days of the Week:
   - Sunday
   - Monday
   - Tuesday
   - Wednesday
   - Thursday
   - Friday
   - Saturday
Botany in the Montessori environment begins with care of the plants and care of a simple garden. The two year old can learn the basic parts of a plant with real plants:

1. Plant
2. Root
3. Stem
4. Leaves
5. Branches
6. Bud
7. Flower
8. Fruit
9. Seed
Zooology in the Montessori environment begins with the care of animals. Fish, a bird, and a mammal are the typical introduction to animals and their care. The names of the parts of the animals that the child can see follows. A set of picture cards for the two year old to name kinds of fish, birds, and mammals are of great interest to the child.

1. The Fish:  
   - head  
   - eyes  
   - mouth  
   - fins

2. The Frog:  
   - head  
   - mouth  
   - eyes  
   - legs

3. The Turtle:  
   - head  
   - neck  
   - eyes  
   - legs  
   - tail

4. The Bird:  
   - head  
   - beak  
   - eyes  
   - wings  
   - tail  
   - feet

5. The Mammal:  
   - head  
   - ears  
   - eyes  
   - legs  
   - neck  
   - tail