

## Toddlers at Work

*The photo series introduces the Young Children's Community (14 months to 2.5 years) and their slow paced environment filled with enriching opportunities for movement, language, and existing in a microcosmic society.*

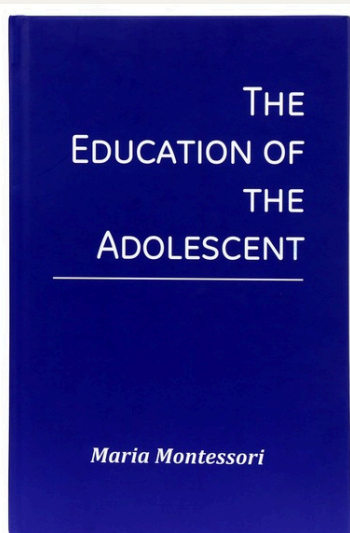
### Child matching objects with pictures



*Photo Courtesy - Reeva Montessori*

## IMF Book - The Education of the Adolescent

Jenie Joseph



The Education of the Adolescent is a remarkable collection that captures Dr. Montessori's profound reflections on adolescence, revealing a vision far richer and more expansive than is often imagined. In these pages, she offers a thoughtful pathway for guiding young people with trust, respect, and deep understanding, nurturing in them not only the confidence to step into adulthood, but also the wisdom and grace to help build a more harmonious world.

Montessori's approach provides a framework for viewing adolescence as a distinct and dynamic phase — full of potential and preparation for meaningful participation in adult life. Further enhancing its value, the foreword is written by AMI Trainer Jenny Höglund.

***This book is now available on the IMF website. The following Google form link can also be used - <https://forms.gle/Q5ncYM38fr25SxCN7>. It is priced at ₹1,120.00 and published in September 2025.***

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## AMI Primary Orientation Course

Kavneet Chadha | Bangalore & Chennai | Online

Orientation courses were offered in November and December by Montessori Institute of Bangalore and Supraja Montessori Study Centre. The course offered an introduction into Montessori education and was aimed for parents, caregivers, school staff and individuals who were in close contact with children.

Many teachers who were offering regional languages in Montessori classrooms took up the course, like Veena S, who was teaching Kannada. "Every time I heard the theory lecture in the evening, the next morning I would see the same thing happen in class practically." She is now looking forward to attending the Assistant Adjunct Course.



*AMI Primary Trainers Ramya Sridhar and Anahita Gandhi with their cohort who set out to understand the needs of young children*

## Alumni Meet of Adolescent Diploma Course

Dhvena Shah | Chennai

After the first two alumni meetings held in 2024 and 2025 at Kodaikanal and a couple virtually, this year's gathering on November 29, 2025 at Supraja Montessori Study Centre felt truly special. For the first time, we attempted to connect adolescent diploma holders from across India and around the world. Reuniting with AMI Trainers Jenny Höglund, with Lesly Ann Patrick joining us virtually from the UK, and all the practitioners was deeply meaningful. Being in the same space again, reading from the book on adolescents that Jenny helped compile, brought back vivid memories from our training and renewed our shared sense of purpose.



After a wonderful lunch, the practitioners presented the works of their adolescents from the farm. It was inspiring to see how our learning has translated into real practice; how reading, reflection, and hands-on experience have blossomed into thoughtful, engaging environments for adolescents. Each presentation highlighted the commitment, creativity, and steady growth of Montessori adolescent communities across different regions.

At this stage, these gatherings feel especially important. Sharing experiences, challenges, and successes helps us strengthen the foundations of adolescent work and move forward with greater clarity and confidence.

The day left all of us feeling grateful for the collective dedication that continues to strengthen our Montessori community. We hope to connect soon with those currently pursuing the Adolescent Diploma at Supraja and MTRT, and we look forward to planning these alumni meetings more often as our community grows stronger each year.

The Erdkinder programme is still at a very beginning phase in India, and coming together as practitioners allows us to reflect, question, and refine our practices collectively.

# AMI Primary Diploma Course Graduation

Meera Ghelani | Chandigarh

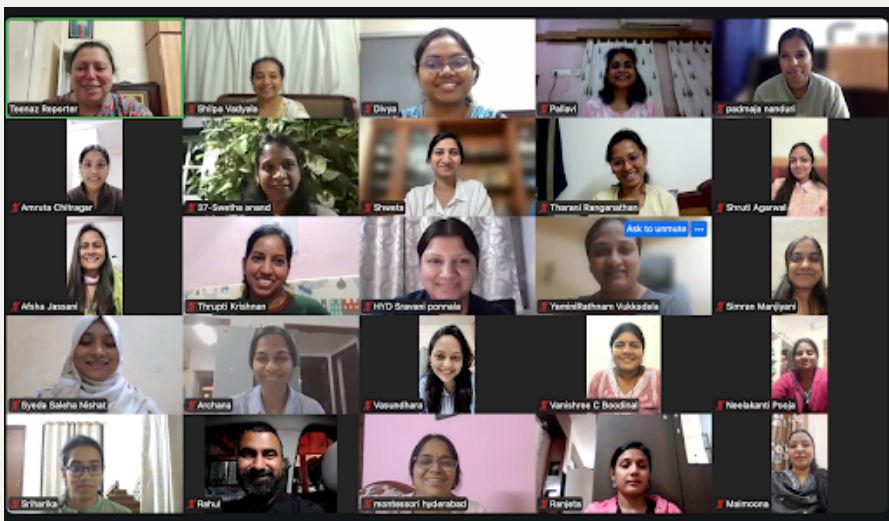


The first AMI Primary Diploma Course at the Vivek High Montessori that began in May 2024, led by AMI Trainers Neelima Mhaskar and Dipa Shrikumar, came to a memorable close in January 2026. AMI courses are transformative journeys that help to grow both professionally and personally. It was the same case with Megha Joshi and Binny Sobti who feel their perspective about children have shifted and made them more reflective in their approach. *“It changed the way we see children, learning, and even ourselves”*. Throughout the course, they learned to slow down, observe with humility, and trust the natural potential of the child.

*“The AMI course did not only teach me how to present Montessori materials, it taught me how to observe, trust, respect, truly understand the child and also the importance of stepping back to allow their own discoveries”* - Kangna

# Workshop - ‘Living in Harmony with Plants and Animals’

Team MTRT | Hyderabad



The Montessori Training and Research Trust organised an online workshop that looked at all the work in the Children’s House that supports the children in making a harmonious connection with nature. AMI Primary Trainer Teenaz Reporter along with the participants explored the ideas of practical life, sensorial, art and language in this light. Divya Krishna shared how her children saw her working on art activities and immediately felt inspired and created butterflies using origami. *“It made me so happy to see them so creatively engaged. I will definitely use these techniques in my own class as well”*, she added. Sustainable practices in class were also looked at to help children build a sense of responsibility and gratitude.

*“My key take away from this workshop is waste management in the classroom, making me realise how much we should put our minds into the entire process”* - Shashikala Patil

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- 3 AMI 12-18 Diploma Course (Coming Soon)
- 4 Montessori Orientation Course in English (3-6 Level)
- 5 Montessori Orientation Course in Telugu (3-6 Level)
- 6 AMI Elementary Montessori Diploma Course (6-12 Level)
- 7 AMI Core Principle Certificate Course

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June 15 - 26 2026  
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Please contact us at  
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The Montessori Orientation to 3-6 course is an intensive full time programme designed to help interested adults to understand the development of children. It opens the way for adults to assist the child's development both at home and in school. The programme introduces the philosophy underpinning Montessori practice and some basic practical skills useful in interacting with children. The course would also be of interest to teachers working in Montessori schools, to parents and expecting parents, and childcare professionals from other fields. It would also be preparatory work for those considering the AMI 3-6 Diploma Course. The course work will consist of lectures, readings and discussion.

**Register Now!**

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## Demystifying Montessori Materials

*'What do toddlers do in school?' is a question that always comes up! Janani Rajyasri, parent and educator, brings to light why some materials are set up and how they are used by the children in a Toddler Montessori community (15 months - 2.5 years).*

### Sweeping

At this age, movement is deeply connected to the construction of intelligence. Sweeping not only satisfies the child's natural urge to imitate the purposeful work of adults around them, it also supports coordination of movements from grasping the handle to directing the bristles along a path.



Photo Courtesy - Navadisha Montessori School

In the environment, small-sized brooms suited to the child's height and hand are placed in a consistent, accessible spot. The child first watches an adult sweep, hearing the sound of bristles on the floor, noticing the broom's movement. Over time, the child begins to participate - first in short bursts, then in longer sequences.

The task is never hurried. The adult's role is to slow down, demonstrating with clear movements while allowing the child to take over when ready. In the beginning, the sweeping may scatter dust more than gather it, but the purpose here is not 'perfection' - it is the joy of purposeful work. Repeated experiences refine control, sequencing, and eventually lead to a clear satisfaction in being able to care for their community.

Sweeping is also an indirect preparation for writing and reading: the left-to-right movement mimics the directionality of script, and the hand-eye coordination strengthens pre-writing skills. More importantly, it builds an inner sense of responsibility for their environment - the magic of practical life.

# Experiencing Montessori

Swathi Raghav

This series explores parents' perspectives and the advantages they associate with their child's participation in a Montessori community.



Photo Courtesy - Malvika Venkat

Kayathri, mother of Nithya, who joined Montessori at the age of 2.9 and is now 6 years old, shares some of the early changes she observed after her daughter started school. *"She was genuinely happy to go to school each day, getting ready on time without any fuss. I could see her blossoming."*

After being part of the Montessori community for a couple of years, Kayathri notes that Nithya's development has been holistic, not just academically, but also in terms of general knowledge and a noticeable boost in self-confidence. She emphasizes that her daughter's growing independence and willingness to help with household chores have been meaningful outcomes of the Montessori experience.

What continues to amaze her most is Nithya's ability to interact comfortably with children of all ages and her natural emergence as a leader within group settings. One Montessori principle that deeply inspired her is the profound respect given to the child, something she sees reflected in her daughter's everyday behavior.

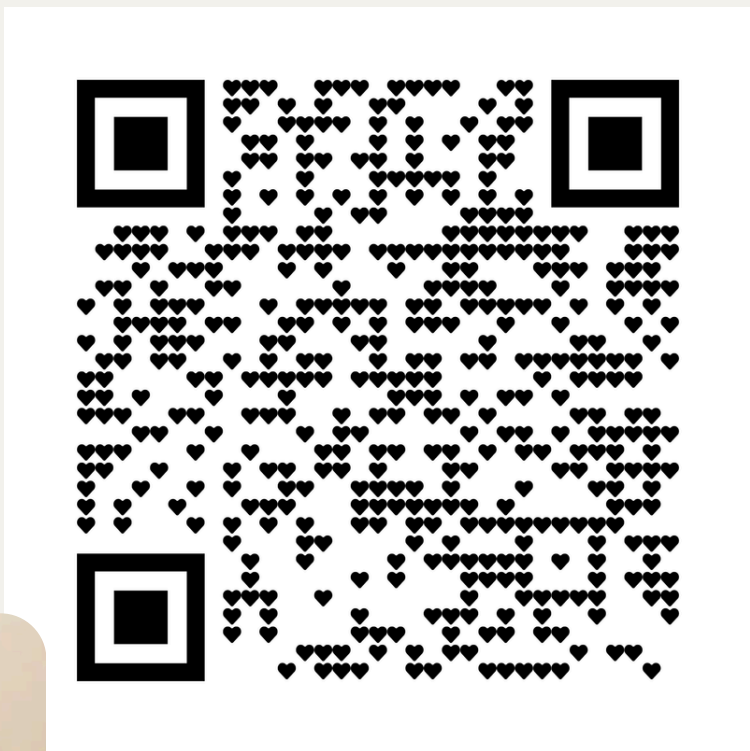
## Songs for the Elementary

My Grandfather's Clock

Performed by **Elementary Children of Redwood Montessori School**

[Link to the Song - My Grandfather's Clock](#)

My grandfather's clock was too large for the shelf,  
 So it stood ninety years on the floor;  
 It was taller by half than the old man himself,  
 Though it weighed not a pennyweight more.  
 It was bought on the morn of the day that he was born,  
 And was always his treasure and pride;  
 But it stopp'd short — never to go again —  
 When the old man died.  
 Ninety years without slumbering  
 (tick, tick, tick, tick),  
 His life seconds numbering,  
 (tick, tick, tick, tick),  
 It stopp'd short — never to go again —  
 When the old man died.



(Scan the QR code for the video of children performing and the lyrics document)



## Stories from Casa

Anju Asokan

Time and again, children bestow us with moments of absolute wonder. This series follows such instances in the Primary (3-6 years) classroom reinforcing faith in the work that we do with children and the collective community.

*"If we study the child better than we have done hitherto, we discover love in all its aspects. Love has not been analysed by the poets and by the prophets, but it is analysed by the realities which every child discloses in himself." Maria Montessori*  
*The Absorbent Mind, p. 267*

One afternoon a five year old was working with the trapezium shaped metal inset (a material that helps to practice the movement of writing). She began drawing the lines straight, going up and then down. As she progressed, her lines became diagonal. At that point, her friend (4.4 years old) stepped in and gently offered to demonstrate *"Can I show you once?"* she asked. The child filling in the shape agreed and passed her pencil on. Her friend began demonstrating, making just three strokes of up and down lines each and passed it back to her. She then stepped away to join a conversation. The child picked up from where her friend left off, making steady straight lines as shown by her peer. Once she was done, she went to her friend and patiently waited beside her to finish conversing. She then showed her friend the paper - they both broke into beaming smiles and got back to each other's work.



Photo Courtesy: Kidoz Montessori School

## Quote from The 1946 London Lectures

*"If we wish to understand man, we must first understand how man has been built. If there is one time in life when all men have the same ideas, when they speak the same language, it is the time of birth. No matter to what race they belong, in which part of the world they are born, newborns are all alike. If we wish to achieve peace and mutual understanding, we must start at the moment of birth, the moment when all men are alike."*

*Maria Montessori, The 1946 London Lectures, p. 27*



Photo Courtesy: John Glatfelter

# What Brought me to Montessori!



Kavneet Chaddha

Many times Montessori is something that we stumble upon! And once we do, we begin to see children in a new light, wishing we had known before. In this space, Montessori Guides from varied backgrounds share their Montessori journeys.

For Purthi Doshi, a mother of two, it was her children and her quest for learning that brought her to Montessori. Currently working with adolescents in Bangalore, she shares how everyday is full of potential for growth, for the child and the adult. *"Just when you think you have figured them out, they respond in ways that make you pause and reflect."*

Purthi reflects on an incident that reminded her of how unpredictable and full of potential this stage of life can be. She ran into a group of adolescents who fabricated excuses and were wandering because they didn't want to work. It was a small, disappointing moment - but also a glimpse into their fear of responsibility and their need for trust. Not long after, the same group asked to organize a Holi celebration. This was agreed upon on the condition that they would handle everything. *"We didn't have much expectation, but as it always goes, children surprise us!"* They had planned every detail - drafted invites, divided tasks, set guidelines, and even created a sign-up sheet. The event was conducted smoothly, from set up to clean up. It wasn't just fun, it was inspiring.

*"Two moments - one of evasion and one of excellence - reflect the dual nature of adolescence. These moments reflect what adolescence is all about: uncertainty, effort, creativity and growth. It is a time of trial and error, of learning and growing. And when given the chance, they often rise beyond our expectations."*

Purthi also shares a moving anecdote from her friend/ colleague, Jenie Tenkasi of an act of true compassion. A fourteen year old stepped into action when the main pipeline in their school broke. While others were helping to store water in buckets and barrels, this boy worked with the plumbers till they fixed the pipeline. Their work extended beyond dinner time, which he chose to skip. He later went on to do his kitchen duty of washing the vessels. *"I was flabbergasted by the energy and spirit of this young adolescent. He definitely debunked preconceived notions about teenagers".* This incident left Purthi speechless and thinking whether our education system is actually harnessing the full potential and power of an adolescent!

## Nature Snap

Nature in all its vastness and minuteness, seen through the eyes of children!

"Colours in Nature - Jacaranda in Full Bloom" Veer Bhandari from Bangalore, 11 years, Photo taken at Nepal





# EVENTS 2025-'26

Sat   19th July 2025	Talk	Montessori Education. An Aid to life	Online
Sat   23 August 2025	Volunteering for IMF	Working together for a thriving community	Online
Sat   30 August 2025	Exclusive Talk for Flagship Schools	Fostering a collaborative Montessori Community	Online
Sat   20 September 2025	Talk	Nourishing Body and Spirit. The Child's Journey with Food	Online
Sat   19 October 2025	Talk	Navigating the Adolescent years	Online
Sat   15 November 2025	Talk	Helping Children Grow in Harmony	Online
Sat   6 December 2025	Orientation	Work of the Indian Montessori Foundation	Online
Fri   23 January 2026 Sat   24 January 2026	<b>CONFERENCE</b>	<b>Seventh National Montessori Conference: SAPARYA</b>	<b>Onsite - Mumbai</b>
Sat   21 February 2026	Exclusive Talk for Flagship Schools	Designing a Prepared Outdoor Environment	Online

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