



NELEPHANT MONTESSORI SCHOOL

School Preparedness

Your Children Will Be Better Prepared For School If You:

- Encourage them to speak clearly and thoughtfully while making eye contact.
- Help them to listen when spoken to.
- Encourage them to carry out simple instructions and to respect authority.
- Allow enough time for them to learn to put on and take off their own outer clothing themselves.
- Remember that independence is important to them.
- Try to provide them with opportunities to play with other children of their own age.
- Listen to and enjoy their school experiences, but don't 'grill' them for information. They tend to withhold more when this happens.
- ABOVE ALL: Help them to achieve a sense of individual accomplishment and a positive image of themselves as people.

See That Your Child's Clothing Is:

- Simple, comfortable, and washable.
- Labeled with his/her initials.
- Easily hung on a hook (i.e. coats with hoods or loops in them tend to be easiest).
- Large enough for them to put on and take off easily. Especially boots. Tights and Leotards are not advised, as they are very difficult for toileting.
- Appropriate for the season.
- Safe: Scarves and dangling drawstrings can be dangerous.

Provide Good Experiences By:

- Frequently reading stories aloud.
- Taking family trips; airport, library, grocery store.
- Giving them a chance to express themselves.
- Answering their many questions.

When You Bring Your Children To School:

- Bring them to the door of their classroom, say goodbye and leave as you normally would. Please do not linger in the hallway, as this makes it confusing for the child and they can become upset. There they will be greeted by one of the teachers, and directed to their tasks for the day.
- Discourage them from bringing favorite objects with them (i.e. toys and blankets are not allowed at school).
- ABOVE ALL: Come with a positive and happy attitude. A relaxed and calm parent makes for a peaceful child! If you seem worried, they think there is something to worry about! This experience will be wonderful for them!

Generally Speaking:

- Protect your child from interruptions when they are working and focused.
- Teach your child with real equipment and materials rather than toys.
- Plan each step of a new activity when showing how to do something and slow down your movements.
- Don't do for your child what they can do for themselves. Ever! Once you see them do it-you have to stop.
- Arrange your home in such a way that your child can manage easily.
- Give sufficient time for your child to perform a task.
- Give them choices.
- Don't re-do a job, they have done, in front of your child.