

# Kindergarten



## Our Approach

**Learning by Doing:** Nearly all of our reading and mathematics lessons involve manipulating objects in the physical world. There is no whole group instruction.

**Multi-sensory:** We harness different learning styles by providing auditory, visual, tactile, and kinesthetic instruction.

**Depth:** We favor depth of understanding over breadth of knowledge. Students can explore the same concept from many angles using a variety of materials.

**Choice:** Our students spend most of the day choosing what lessons they prefer to work on. While we are mindful of grade-level expectations, our students have the freedom to go more in-depth into the activities that interest them most.

## Goals of the Program

**Reading and Writing:** Students will learn phonics using hands-on materials developed by Maria Montessori such as the sandpaper letters and the moveable alphabet. Students will learn common sight words using the multisensory SnapWords curriculum. Students will begin reading simple texts and will learn to write lowercase print letters.

**Mathematics:** Students will develop “number sense” through the use of hands-on materials. Our goal to foster genuine understanding of mathematical concepts over rote memorization of mathematical operations. Using a combination of the Montessori Method and EngageNY’s kindergarten mathematics curriculum, we will explore comparison of numbers 1-20, length, weight, and capacity, 2D and 3D shapes, addition, and subtraction.



**Science:** We will focus on nature and the observable physical world. Students’ curiosity will be nurtured as they are encouraged to ask questions and form hypotheses as an introduction to the scientific method. Students will develop skills such as measurement, comparison, and classification.

**Social Skills:** Students will develop social skills such as being flexible, using words to express needs and feelings, making friends, compromise, patience, and using manners.

**Learning Skills:** With prompting, support, and the use of teachable moments, students will build focus, self-direction, persistence, and curiosity.

