



Looking Ahead
May 11, Fri. 10am-12pm. Open House: Follow your Child
May 17, Thu. 6pm. Violeta Parent Evening
 4/30 Snack, laundry, flowers: **Finn**



I love going to the park with my friends, rain or shine!

"Just as in using a compass, the fixing of the point is what enables us to draw the circle, so in the child's formation the fixing of his attention is basic to all that comes afterwards. No one says it must always fixate in the same way, or on the same things, but unless it does fixate formation cannot begin. Without concentration, it is the objects about him which possess the child. He feels the call of each, and goes from one to another. But once his attention has been focused, he becomes his own master and can exert control over his world"

M.Montessori, *The Absorbent Mind*, p.217



Welcome spring! We cleaned the planters and planted some seeds.

Concentration is the corner stone for the development of the child's personality. When the child concentrates on an activity, all his abilities become aligned, integrated, towards the completion of the activity, guided by his interest and his mind. The child connects with his own self, and is joyful, peaceful, in harmony with himself and the world around him. What can we do to support concentration? Montessori says: "For this we must provide "motive for activity" so well adapted to the child's interests that they provoke his deep attention. Their success in this is dependent on the use of the objects for the purposes they are designed to serve, a thing which is also conducive to the child's "mental order". If they are used with care and precision, this leads the child to the "coordination of his movements" ... We say "concentration", and not just "occupation", because if the children go indifferently from one thing to another, even if they use them all properly, this is not enough".



Making an equilateral triangle with different types of triangles.



With the number rods and cards I associate a quantity with a symbol.



Adding with the abacus, so many different ways to put numbers together and apart!

Order, motives for activity, freedom to choose among appropriate activities, appropriate and *firm* limits that will help develop mental order (respect for the environment, both living and non-living!). Show the child how to use things, model and help him to become physically independent, which will lead to purposeful, independent exploration of his environment. These abilities will give the child a sense of control over his life and his environment. You do not need to entertain your child all the time, you *should* not entertain your child all the time, allow him to be bored (do not turn the screen on!), connect to his inner being and find the things that are good for his own development.



Cutting with scissors requires concentration and fine motor skills, the lines on the paper are my control of error



We set up beans and are observing and recording how they grow!



I wrote the story about how a bee grows!



We practiced more division, this time Miss Astrid went to the flower market and brought flowers to share with all of us!



Dishwashing