



2023-2024 Upper Elementary Supply List

Please purchase the corresponding school supplies and bring them with you on the first day of school. We will distribute some of these as needed throughout the school year.

- ☐ One pack of pencil-top erasers
- ☐ One skein of colorful yarn
- ☐ One package of low melt hot glue gun sticks
- ☐ One package of glue sticks
- ☐ Small Indoor Potted Plant *

Please help us create a beautiful classroom by sending in an indoor plant that can stand overwatering. *Plants will be returned in June. Please label the plant and saucer with name in permanent ink*

The following items belong to each student:

- ☐ 1 small handheld pencil sharpener with receptacle for shavings
- ☐ 1 reusable water bottle
- ☐ a backpack to bring things back and forth from school
- ☐ pocket folder (to bring paperwork home/to school)
- ☐ pencil pouch/pencil box (ideally this should be able to hold 12 markers and 12 colored pencils)

Emergency Items - Please place the following items inside a Ziploc bag labeled with your child's name. *We will return any unused items at the end of the school year.*

- ☐ A reassuring note from parents
- ☐ A family picture

Optional Items:

- Slippers or indoor Shoes *
- Rain gear to live in the cubby at school

Note: Students cannot go barefoot in the classroom. Please be sure your student comes with socks daily. They have the option to keep extra socks or slippers in their cubby.

More Montessori Information - *Why we do what we do

You may have noticed that there are a few unique items listed on the school supply list. These are traditional to a Montessori classroom and support specific goals.

Small Indoor Plant

The Montessori classroom is the living space for children and plants are often a piece in completing the space. Bringing plants into the classroom also gives children another opportunity to care for their environment. Learning how to care for plants is a core Practice Life activity as children are responsible for watering and dusting each plant. The learning opportunity transitions into the classroom Montessori work of the Botany cabinet as well as more in depth care including repotting and finding the perfect space for a plant to flourish and grow. Plants also provide a beautiful symbiotic relationship with us caring for plants and plants caring for us through fresh air and purification.

Inside Shoes/Slippers

A Montessori classroom traditionally has children and teachers/guides wear different shoes or slippers for use in the indoor space. This practice promotes cleanliness in the classroom and creates an active transition between the outside world and the inside space. The act of removing outdoor shoes and putting on a different pair of shoes that is specifically designated for indoor use signals children to switch gears in rhythm and place. It is a visual and physical gate between the two spaces and reinforces the change in behavior and expectations that are part moving from outdoor to indoor.

Lace Up Shoes

Encouraging independence in children is a core principle of Montessori education. It fosters confidence, teaches a child responsibility for themselves (and their space) and builds important life skills. One of the key goals of Montessori education is to teach children to be able to do things for themselves. In a Montessori classroom, independence is an ongoing and organic process. As a child learns to pour water, put on their own shoes and clean their own workspace, they become more confident and independent, all of which lead to ongoing benefits throughout their childhood and life. Students are provided with daily opportunities for independent and self-directed learning and the independent task of being able to put on their shoes supports and encourages this independence.