

## AppleSeed International School Toddler Program

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### I. Introduction to AppleSeed International School:

AppleSeed International School uses an early childhood education program inspired by Montessori philosophy. Each child is a “spiritual embryo”, in need of an environment warm with love and rich in nourishment, in which the child will be protected and can grow and develop his/her unique and whole personality.

### II. A typical day in AppleSeed International School’s Toddler Program:

- A. Receiving and Greeting Children  
If your child needs to be dropped off before 8:30 or 9:00 am please take him/her to the designated daycare room – Auditorium; the teacher there will greet your child. Otherwise we’ll greet you and your child in their classroom. (Sign in sheets will be at the front table before 8:30 am; after 8:30 am they will be back in your child’s classroom.)
- B. Circle  
Attendance, calendar date, days of the week, number of days we have been in school, weather, and International demonstration.
- C. Individual Work Time  
During Work Time, your child has the freedom to choose and work with “jobs” in different areas. Our classrooms are divided into different areas including Practical Life, Sensorial, Math, Language and Art. Individual lessons will be given according to each child’s developmental needs and our records.
- D. Free Play  
AppleSeed International School is well equipped with a variety of toys, games and play equipment, which develop and strengthen the child’s gross motor skills. Both indoor and outdoor free play time helps children learn to take turns, relate to other children and develop sensitivity to others’ feelings and needs. Coordination and muscle movement are encouraged in the fun and relaxed atmosphere of our well-appointed playground.
- E. Socialization  
Through various group activities, children are encouraged to express themselves and to interact with others. They develop social skills such as sharing, giving, caring, and serving.

### III. Curriculum Areas:

- A. General goals and purpose of method inspired by Montessori philosophy  
The basic goal of the International method is “normalization” of the child so that he/she becomes well-balanced, spontaneous, and able to utilize his/her capabilities to the fullest. Some of the characteristics of such a child are the following: Ability to concentrate well, sense of personal dignity, independence, self-motivation, love of order, ability to work alone, self-discipline, desire for freedom of choice, pleasure and fulfillment in work for its own sake (no need for reward or punishment), obedience, preference for work over play, and love of learning.
- B. Practical Life Area  
In the Practical Life Area, your child has a chance to work with familiar objects: Buttons, brushes, dishes, pitchers, water and many other things which the child recognizes from his/her home experience. Each “job” has a meaningful design, which will work in perfecting your child’s coordination and help him gain confidence. Through the constant repetition of motions the child is strengthening the muscles that he will need to be able to work later with the more intricate academic materials. As the child becomes absorbed in an activity, he gradually lengthens his span of concentration. Through repetitive use, these hands-on materials will also help your child to develop a sense of order and help him to be more independent.
- C. Sensorial Area

Each of the Sensorial Materials isolates one defining quality such as color, weight, shape, texture, size, sound, smell, etc. The equipment emphasizes this one particular quality by eliminating or minimizing other differences. Using the Sensorial Materials helps develop and refine a child's sense perceptions and enables him/her to understand the many impressions he receives through his/her senses.

D. Language

We will prepare your child for language by working on pre-language activities such as flannel board stories, matching picture cards, stories, puzzles, puppet stories, etc. When he/she starts the preschool program, we will introduce the phonetic sounds by using more International materials including sandpaper letters, symbols matching objects, songs, etc. In order to prepare your child to read, to speak, and to write, your child will be working by following this order: Phonetic sound-beginning sound, ending sound, three letter words (cat, fan, bed, etc.), four letter words (consonant blending and long vowels), sentences, and so on.

E. Math

Math is everywhere in our classroom. We count the children, the calendar days, snacks, etc. A child can learn basic concepts of mathematics by using concrete materials during the years in which he/she enjoys manipulating equipment.

F. Music

We do music and movement, finger plays, puppet shows, and flannel stories.

G. Art

Your child will experience different techniques and color through the use of our art area. Some examples are finger painting, water painting, sponge painting, easel painting, cutting, pasting, stencil tracing, various crafts, etc.

H. Science

We introduce farm animals, sea animals, plants, insects, etc.

#### **IV. Sharing Day**

Every Monday is our "Sharing Day". Your child is encouraged to bring one item for sharing which is related to our "Sound of the Week," color, shape, number, or monthly theme. Books with the letter of the week in the title are an excellent choice. Please ask a teacher if you have any questions. (No Toys Please).