



## Suggested Materials Lists Infant & Toddler

The American Montessori Society School Accreditation Commission and the AMS Teacher Education Action Commission offer you this list of suggested learning materials for the Infant & Toddler classroom. The intent of this checklist is to provide Montessori schools and teacher education programs with a list of developmentally-appropriate materials and activities that very young children ages birth to 3 years are generally expected to have available in their classrooms. This list is comprehensive but not exclusive or prescriptive and teachers may also present other activities. Not all of these activities are expected to be out at any given time, but a wide variety of them should be provided at some point throughout the year. It is particularly important to consider cleanliness and safety with this age group, including awareness of potential choking hazards.

Infants - Birth to 18 Months	
Practical Life, Arts and Crafts	
	Bathing
	Changing Diaper, Changing Pants, Dressing and Undressing
	Floor mattresses or Futons for Sleeping
	Use of Handkerchief/Tissue
	Use of Toilet
	Washing Hands
	Washing Face
	Replacing materials on the shelf
	Drying Spilled Water
	Feeding the Baby (should have adult glider or rocking chair for this purpose)
	Picking up Sand, Mulch, Rocks
	Self-Feeding: Eating with Hands, Grasping, and then introducing use of Cup and Spoon
	Setting the Table
	Serving Oneself
	Watering Plants
	Greeting and Saying Goodbye
	Gentle Touch with Others
	Respecting Others Work and Space
	<i>NOTE: Many of the Care of Self and Care of Environment items listed in this section are to be introduced and modeled by the adult. These behaviors are not expected to be done consistently or independently by the child.</i>



## Suggested Materials Lists Infant & Toddler

Infants - Birth to 18 Months	
Movement	
	Blocks
	Balls of Many Textures and Sizes
	Bar for Pulling Oneself Up
	Differing levels of floor space
	Differing sizes/styles of chairs for the child starting with a weaning chair for newly seated children and moving to chairs with no arms for older infants
	Low tables
	Incline Plane
	Maximum Effort Activity
	Pull and Push Toys
	Mirrors (long, horizontal)
	Slide
	Stair with Rails
	Outdoor Walks
	Wheelbarrow
	Box with Ball
	Nesting Objects
	Objects in a Basket for exploration (Treasure Basket)
	Peg Block (Single knobbed cylinder block )
	Rhymes and Singing with Actions
	Ribbon and Bell
	Dance: Free Movement with Rhythm

Infants - Birth to 18 Months	
Sensorimotor	
	Black and White Contrast Mobile
	Variety of Visual Mobiles (different colors, different shapes)
	Variety of Grasping (or Kicking) Mobiles (different colors, shapes, textures, and sounds)
	Shape Sorting Materials (Simple, no more than three shapes)
	Rattles
	Bell
	Drum
	Music Box
	Sound System and Recordings



## Suggested Materials Lists Infant & Toddler

Infants - Birth to 18 Months	
Language	
	1-2 Piece Puzzles
	Books
	Bead Maze (Roller Coaster)
	Ball Tracker
	Reciprocal Vocalization
	Verbalization and Conversations (with the child)
	Naming Objects in the Environment
	Pictures of Authentic Activities for Conversation (placed low so infants can see them)
	Rhymes and Songs with Actions
	Sign Language
	Vocabulary Picture Cards



## Suggested Materials Lists Infant & Toddler

Toddlers - 18 to 36 Months	
Practical Life, Arts and Crafts	
	Brushing Teeth
	Combing Hair
	Simple Dressing Frames (zipper, button, snap, buckle)
	Dressing and Undressing
	Bathing the Doll
	Object Washing (e.g. shell)
	Folding and Putting Clothes Away
	Taking off and Putting on a Coat
	Taking off and Putting on Shoes
	Using a Handkerchief/Tissue
	Using the Toilet
	Washing Hands
	Dusting
	Replacing materials on the shelf
	Rolling a small rug
	Feeding Pets
	Flower Arranging
	Folding
	Raking
	Shoveling
	Sowing Seeds
	Sweeping, Mopping, and Using a Dustpan
	Clothes Pins
	Washing Plant Leaves
	Washing a Table
	Watering Plants
	Pouring Water
	Spreading
	Cutting Fruits/Cheeses
	Making Juice
	Setting the Table
	Serving Food (with hands, scoops, spoons, tongs, etc)
	Baster or Eyedropper
	Clearing the Table
	Washing Dishes



## Suggested Materials Lists Infant & Toddler

Toddlers - 18 to 36 Months	
Movement	
	Outdoor Walks
	Walking in a circle
	Walking a Straight Line on the floor
	Balance Beam
	Bar from which to Hang
	Swing – outdoor
	Sandbox
	Objects to Climb Over
	Tunnel to Climb Through
	Rocking Horse/Boat/Chair
	Vestibular Board (e.g. sit and spin)
	Riding Toys (e.g. tricycles)
	Carrying and Pushing Heavy Objects
	Nesting Objects
	Vertical Ring Post
	Horizontal Ring Post
	Large Bead Stringing
	Opening and Closing Containers
	Nuts and Bolts
	Hammering
	Spooning
	Dry Pouring
	Liquid Pouring
	Pouring with a Funnel
	Transferring Water with Eyedropper
	Toddler Drawer (Small set of drawers to open and close)
	Tonging



## Suggested Materials Lists Infant & Toddler

Toddlers - 18 to 36 Months	
Sensorimotor	
	Stacking/Nesting Boxes
	Posting Boxes (Imbucare Boxes)
	Simple Cylinder Block
	Geometric Shape Box/Imbucare Box with Geometric Shapes/Shape Sorter
	Puzzles (including a geometric shape puzzle)
	Sorting
	Color Matching
	Music
	Sounds in the Environment
	Voice: Tone and Volume
	Simple Sound Matching (4 Pairs)
	Percussive Instruments (e.g. maracas, small floor drums, bells, rain sticks)
	Music Box
	Mystery Bag
	Geometric Solids (natural wood; beginning solids only)
	Texture and Temperature in the Environment
	Rough and Smooth Textures
	Smelling and Tasting Experiences (e.g. food, flowers, grinding spices)
	Outdoor Experiences in Nature: Rain, Dirt, Leaves to promote awareness of smells
	Paper Tearing
	Paper Cutting with small rounded tip scissors
	Pasting
	Sewing Cards
	Peg Boards
	Bead Stringing
	Play Dough
	Chalkboard
	Painting
	Crayons
	Hammering
	Tracing Letters/Numbers



## Suggested Materials Lists Infant & Toddler

Toddlers - 18 to 36 Months	
Language	
	Singing/Finger Plays
	Dialogues
	Reciprocal Vocalization
	Naming objects in the Environment
	Mystery Bag
	Classified Objects
	Vocabulary Cards
	Matching Objects with Cards
	Books (Objects, Actions, Stories)
	Farm
	Non-Working Telephone
	Object to Object Match
	Object to Picture Match
	Picture to Picture Match
	Matching: Pictures of Objects that Go Together (i.e. spider and spider web)
	Objects for "I Spy" with initial sounds



**AMERICAN MONTESSORI SOCIETY**  
education that transforms lives

## **Suggested Materials Lists Infant & Toddler**

*In addition to the Montessori materials, a quality Montessori school has the following...*

In addition to Montessori materials, it is important to recognize that the qualities, skills and behaviors of the adults responsible for meeting the needs of these young children is incredibly important during this most important stage of self construction. This is the crucial time in which children are absorbing experiences, making early decisions about the kind of persons they are, and about the world. They are developing basic trust in themselves and in their environment which will affect them for the rest of their lives.