Little Explorers Montessori School is the only Christian Montessori School in the Romeoville/Plainfield/Joliet area. We offer a reasonably priced Primary Program (Preschool, Pre-K and Kindergarten) for children ages 3-6 years old and an Elementary Program for students 6-11 years old.

Our school operates 5 days a week from 6:30am – 5:30pm, which includes extended daycare times.

WE OFFER:

3, 4, and 5 half-day programs for children 3- 4 years old:

8:30 am – 11:30 am

3, 4, and 5 full-day programs for children 3-5 years old:

8:30 am –3:00 pm

5 full-day programs for students 5-11 years old. Kindergarten thru 5th grade is required to be a full-day program.

8:30 am – 3:00pm

Before and after school care

- 7 am – 8:30 am
- 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm

We invite you to call us for a tour of our school and learn more about how Little Explorers and your child can grow together.

Little Explorers

Montessori School

175 Highpoint Drive
Romeoville, IL 60446
(815) 886-4898

Little-Explorers.com
sherry@Little-Explorers.com

Head of School
Sherry Kunze

PRESCHOOL

KINDERGARTEN

1st- 5th Grade

SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM

Little Explorers Montessori School
is affiliated with
The American Montessori Society
and recognized by the
Illinois State Board of Education

Little Explorers
Montessori School

Where the Heart, Mind, and Spirit Grow Together

Preschool and Kindergarten
Through 5th grade

FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE
Preschool and Prekindergarten

Our Purpose

Little Explorers Montessori School was established to provide quality education experiences accompanied with Christian values for children. We are interested in a framework in which intellectual, spiritual and social development go hand in hand in order to help each child learn the basic ideas, attitudes, and skills essential for success both in school and in life.

The use of Dr. Montessori's methods and philosophies facilitates reaching our goals. The uniquely designed Montessori materials, the specially prepared environment, and the Montessori- trained Directresses (teachers) invite the children to learn at their own pace in relation to their interest and readiness.

Our commitment to the Montessori philosophy is reinforced by research that suggests that children benefit from the learning cycle of a Montessori environment. The Montessori environment enables them to fully develop the potential for creativity, initiative, independence, order, and habits of concentration, persistence, and inner discipline. Our children become self-confident learners, respectful of others and themselves. Children with these developmental skills are better able to make the most of any future learning environment.

Little Explorers is dedicated to an educational experience that will help children develop not only a foundation for a lifetime of learning but also a love for life and humankind. We ask not what is in our best interests, but that which is in the best interest of the child. Kindergarteners Number Building

Montessori Education at Little Explorers

Prior to age six, the child learns more easily and efficiently than at any other period in life. Research has established the critical importance of the first six years of life for a child's physical, cognitive, emotional and social development. Montessori education is both a philosophy of child development and a method for guiding such development.

The Montessori environment is a prepared one. It affords the child stimulation and exercises his senses in a controlled and orderly manner. The classroom is designed so that the materials available to the children are appropriate for their varying ages, interests, and levels of development.

The Montessori Method is designed to promote the understanding of children and their needs. Children discover in their own way and in their own time. The most important contribution that Montessori makes is in the development of our children's attitudes and approaches to learning.

Little Explorers incorporates the four major elements of the Montessori Method.

Individualized education: Dr. Montessori realized that children are all different and should not be held to the pace or interest of others.

Prepared environment conducive to self-discovery: The child is free to move about the classroom at will, to talk to other children, to work with any equipment whose purpose he understands, or to ask the teacher to introduce new material to him. He is not free to disturb other children at work or to abuse the equipment that is so important to his development.

A Directress trained in the Montessori philosophy and methods: The Directress prepares the environment, perceives the child's needs, and facilitates the child's growth in learning. The Directress works with individual children by presenting materials and giving guidance where needed. Her method of teaching is indirect in that she neither imposes upon the child nor abandons him as in a non-directive permissive approach. The Directress is the child's advocate and has respect for the child's total being.

Self-teaching/self-correcting teaching materials: Montessori materials introduce abstract concepts in a concrete, "hands-on" way. There are five main areas of the Montessori classroom: practical life, sensorial, language, math, science, including geography. Each area is equipped with uniquely designed materials that contain a built-in "control of error" which enables the child to see and eventually to understand and correct his errors.

Practical Life - Practical life exercises are designed to help a child gain a sense of order, to develop coordination and concentration and to foster independence. Practical life exercises essentially provide the blueprint of life and emphasize building fine motor skills and increasing attention spans.

Sensorial - Sensorial lessons define shape, color, size, weight, sound, smell and texture. Sensorial experiences appeal to the five senses of sight, touch, smell, taste and sound. The use of concrete sensorial materials establishes the necessary foundation for the child to later recognize the abstract ideas with greater understanding and a more organized mind.

Language - Language development spans all areas of the classroom and is alive with movement. In the Montessori classroom, children learn through phonetics as well as sight –reading through labels in the classroom. Individualistic lessons are based on phonetics, linguistics and sight–r e a d i n g skills. The children's interest in reading is never stifled by monotony; rather it is cultivated as their most important key to future learning.

Mathematics - Maria Montessori demonstrated that if children have access to logical thinking approaches of mathematics in their early years, they joyfully acquire the necessary skills and facts about math. The Montessori approach to mathematics is logical, clear and effective. Children work with concrete materials representing abstract concepts. The whole math experience is very kinesthetic and visual. Children learn concepts through natural progression. The classroom is full of materials for learning the concepts of numeration, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division and problem solving.

Science/Geography - Geography, history, biology and world cultures are presented to the children in enriching and exciting ways. Children study about the world through maps and globes. The objective is to increase their awareness of our planet. The Montessori Method offers the children a concrete presentation of history by letting them work with timelines.