



DEMONSTRATE HOW  
LEARNING THEORIES  
CAN SUPPORT  
EFFECTIVE TEACHING  
AND LEARNING

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# MARIA MONTESSORI



Maria Montessori was an Italian physician, innovator and educator best known for her educational theory the Montessori Method. She based her ideas on children's impressive ability to learn. Maria believed that by granting children independence from early on in their growth, children would grow up to be adults capable of handling challenges in their lives (Torres 2023).

## Montessori Method

The main goal of the Montessori Method is to support each child in realising their full potential in settings tailored to their interests and requirements. Adults and children are essential parts of providing this nurturing environment designed to follow the motto of 'following the child' (Montessori Global Education 2024)

### Key Principles

- Supporting
- Respecting
- Trusting
- Providing
- Encouraging

# HOW DOES THE MONTESSORI METHOD FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

Children in Montessori classrooms make their own learning decisions, and the highly qualified teacher and classroom provide age-appropriate activities to help direct the process. Youngsters strive to reach their full potential and learn about the work in both group and individual settings (Montessori Northwest 2024).

Self-directed play, group projects and practical exercises are the foundation of the Montessori theory. (Sawyer 2024).

Incorporating nature (outdoor areas are frequently a significant component of the experience), allows for mobility and activity. Children should have more of limited access to certain activities and resources to be able to guide their independence to a certain level (Sawer 2024).



# HOW LEARNING CAN BE PLANNED IN A MONTESSORI EARLY YEARS CLASSROOM



Montessori focuses on planning lessons and activities around the children's current interests. Selecting activities suitable for one's age range promotes confidence and skills development (Montessori Academy 2022)

- Montessori classrooms tend to lean towards having a classroom that is divided into multiple learning areas
- Limit to decoration on the walls
- Often use Natural Furnishing
- Softer lighting
- Organization

The Goal of the Montessori layout is to support self-driven play and allow the children to learn at their own pace. The clear floor plan and defined areas help encourage the children to discover areas that interest them (Miniapple 2016).

Children learn everyday life skills including dressing, preparing snacks, setting the table and caring for plants and animals. They are also taught how to resolve problems respectfully, be kind and helpful, listen without interrupting and say please and thank you (American Montessori Society 2024).

# POSITIVES AND NEGATIVES OF THE MONTESSORI METHOD

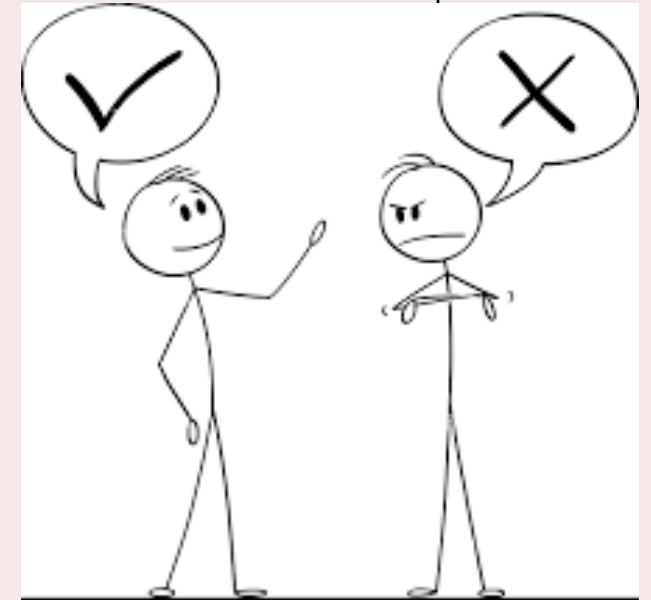
## Positives

- Provides hands-on learning
- Enhances their social interactions
- Develops their soft skills
- Helps develop independence

## Negatives

- Can be expensive
- Can affect their social skills
- Independence can often not be helpful

(Locus Assignments 2024)



## Laura's references

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