## **CHILD GUIDANCE METHODS**

OUR VISION... is to create a culture of personal excellence where each child pursues their interests, and skills, that support solving problems that they will face once they leave us to go into the world at the age of 5. FKO is committed to promoting quality Montessori guided education for all children 6 weeks to 5 years.

Learning works best when children are engaged! A purposeful play based curriculum with nurturing teachers is the key to Engaged Learning for developing minds, this is derived from research based on early education.

Early educators, as well as what we have learned through the years, have shown through research that if you engage a child to a new skill when they are really ready; it opens them up to the ability to accomplish the task, instead of being frustrated by it. Once this is achieved you then continue to build on to the next level of this and it is what I refer to as the Engaged Play-based Learning.

**MONTESSORI** is based on a model of human development. It has two basic principles. First, children and developing adults engage in psychological self-construction by means of interaction with their environments. Second, children (especially under the age of six) have an innate path of psychological development. Montessori believed that children who are at liberty to choose and act freely within an environment prepared would act spontaneously for optimal development. Montessori education involves free activity within a "prepared environment", meaning an educational environment tailored to basic human characteristics, to the specific characteristics of children at different ages, and to the individual personalities of each child.

**THE ENVIRONMENTS** Both Montessori and play-based preschools can have supportive, carefully designed environments. Montessori preschools are typically organized into five curriculum areas: language, math, practical life, sensorial and culture. Play-based centers may also be arranged into areas or stations based on activities or themes

**THE BENEFITS** Children in Montessori based programs also tend to become highly self-regulated. That's a major advantage, because it's considered, at this time, a huge criterion for success in school—not intelligence but the capacity to self-regulate. both Montessori and play-based centers help kids prepare for kindergarten and develop a love for learning, and both must meet regulations set by your provincial or territorial government.

These programs are child-directed, emphasizing active, self-paced, individualized learning. Children choose activities based on their interests and "work" for uninterrupted blocks of time. We observe and track their progress, and facilitate their use of materials. Through this approach, it's thought that children become more confident, independent, self-regulated and self-disciplined.

Parents are viewed as partners, collaborators, and advocates for their children. Teachers respect parents as each child's first teacher and involve parents in every aspect of the curriculum. This philosophy Parents are expected to take part in discussions about school policy, child development concerns, and curriculum planning and evaluation.