

EDEF 3200
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Educational Philosophy Statement

“What the hand does, the mind remembers.”
Maria Montessori

Children's discoveries have substantial value if they can use their hands to explore their discoveries. When they actively participate they experience what they are learning with their hands and they get to make their discoveries. Physical, hands-on materials make the learning environment more engaging and more memorable. Our students find it more straightforward to understand and grasp new ideas and concepts. Using manipulatives to be more hands-on makes their learning more authentic and stems away from memorizing. A sensory approach aims to spark students' interest in their natural surroundings. Compared to children who only watch or read instructions, children who work with their hands get a more thorough knowledge of topics. Learning through hands-on experience is more inclusive and helps students with all teaching styles. Students benefit far more from hands-on learning than from being made to sit still as it is more dynamic and captivating.

I would implement this in my classroom by having multiple means of representation. I would give students every opportunity to learn with manipulatives. I would also do as many hands-on activities and projects as I can. Making science more hands-on would make it more engaging and exciting. I would love to do hands-on science experiments and how that can relate to experiential learning and onto the land. If you compare a time you watched someone else do it to you doing it yourself, being hands-on is more memorable for students. Through hands-on activities and experience, students learn that things don't always go right the first time and that you need to get back up and try again!