

GOSHEN MONTESSORI PRESCHOOL

HAPPY HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY 2025



Units of Study

Color: **White**

Food: **Water + Ice**

Science: **Vertebrates vs. Invertebrates**

Geography & Culture: **Antarctica**

Music: **Dynamics**

Art: **Fun w/ Water and Ice**

Movement: **Snow + Polar Themes**

Holidays & Celebrations: **New Year Celebrations**



January Birthdays

Happy Birthday to our January Friends: Magdalena (Primary), Lea (Toddler), Brooks (Toddler)



School Updates

Due to some unexpected issues, our main email and website is down. Please send any questions via Brightwheel or to: hellogmpgoshen@gmail.com

Scan the QR code below to see ways you can support GMP!

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Email



Understanding Maria Montessori's Absorbent Mind: A Guide for Caregivers

• Maria Montessori, a pioneering educator and physician, introduced the concept of the "absorbent mind" to describe the way young children learn during their early years of development. Montessori believed that children from birth to age six possess a unique ability to absorb knowledge and skills effortlessly from their environment, much like a sponge soaking up water. This period, often referred to as the "sensitive period," is a critical time for brain development, where children are naturally inclined to learn language, motor skills, and social behaviors. The absorbent mind allows children to take in information passively, without the need for formal instruction, making this stage of development rich with potential for building foundational skills.

During this time, a child's brain is highly receptive to sensory input, and learning occurs through exploration and interaction with the world around them. Montessori emphasized the importance of providing a stimulating, structured environment that offers opportunities for hands-on experiences. Instead of passive learning through lectures or rote memorization, children thrive when they are encouraged to explore, experiment, and problem-solve on their own. Montessori believed that by engaging the senses and fostering independent thinking, children could construct their own understanding of the world, which leads to deeper and more meaningful learning.

For parents and caregivers, understanding the absorbent mind means recognizing the immense capacity for learning that exists within each child and creating an environment that supports this natural process. Simple everyday activities like sorting objects, listening to stories, and exploring nature can offer rich learning experiences. Montessori's theory encourages parents to be mindful of their child's needs for freedom, respect, and autonomy, as these principles allow the child to thrive. By nurturing a child's curiosity and providing them with the tools to explore, parents can help cultivate a lifelong love of learning rooted in the child's inherent desire to understand and engage with the world.