

Many students have asked for more or different ideas for homework. Below is a list of ideas of "Montessori homework". Homework in the Montessori philosophy should be authentic meaningful work that the student chooses to do at home and follows their passions and desires to learn more.

I will continue to send home the sheet of math and sheet of language homework along with spelling. As a family, it is your decision whether to continue only with the worksheets, switch to only work from the list below, or do both. I would encourage you to discuss with your student what they believe will benefit them most and what they enjoy. Many students enjoy the worksheets and others would like to express and practice their knowledge in other ways. Follow your student and discover what they would be internally motivated to do in order to expand their knowledge and practice their skills during the week.

'Montessori Homework' ideas:

*Perform an act of charity or extraordinary kindness.

*Plan and prepare dinner for your family with little or no help from your folks. Determine the menu, the shopping, the prices, etc.

*Read poetry books...create your own poem to share with the class.

*Read together books that touch the soul and fire the imagination. Create a report to share with your classroom.

*Go to the mountains and learn what you can about biomes, animals, habitats, rocks, and the water cycle. You can do this type of work at any location you choose, such as the grasslands, plains, a lake, etc.

*Practice your sounds by creating letters in clay, with beans, in sand, or with glue.

*Keep a journal when you travel, over the weekends, or on special occasions.

*Buy some stock and follow its course over time. Pretend that you have a thousand dollars to invest, ten thousand, a million. Write a plan of how to invest, etc.

*How many square feet of carpet would it take to cover your entire house? Convert this number into square yards. Call two carpet dealers. What kinds of carpet do they offer? What would it cost to carpet your house?

*Build a square model of the floor plan of your house out of cardboard, one floor at a time. Be as careful and exact as you can.

*Create a map of your house. Give directions on how to get there to a friend.

- *Take a survey of your family or friends on any subject you choose. Be creative!
- *Develop a pen pal in a Montessori school across the USA or in another country.
- *Prepare a list of all the things that you would like to do with your life: career, cities to visit, mountains to climb, and things you want to learn, etc.
- *Teach your dog a new trick. Write it down!
- *Build a model of the Parthenon, an aqueduct, or some other historical structure.
- *Plant a garden, tree, some bulbs around your house. Keep track of the growth cycle, the weather, and your results.
- *Write a play and perform it with some friends for your class.
- * Create a chart of measurement - measure items around your house, and bring to class to share.
- *Make puppets with your family, build a puppet theater and put on a performance.
- *Learn about magic and master a new trick. Write it down to share with others.
- *Build a bridge out of popsicle sticks held together with carpenter's glue that will span a three-foot chasm and support several bricks.
- *Interview your grandparents about their childhood. Write a biography or share what you learn.
- *Observe your pets at home. Create an observation journal. Share with the class!
- *Find the perimeter of all the tables in your home. Or doors, or beds, etc.
- *Read to a sibling, a family member, a friend, or a pet.
- *Using a book on children's science projects, select an experiment or project, carry it out, and prepare a report that documents what you did.
- *Build a model sailboat using different types of sail plans. Race them on a pond.
- *Select a city somewhere in the world where you have never traveled. Find out everything that you can. Draw a map, including landforms, biomes, capital cities, latitude and longitudes, compass rose, etc.

*Learn something new and teach it to someone in your class.

*Meet a real artist and visit her studio. Learn a new type of art. Report back to the class.

*Learn first aid.

*Create a timeline of your own life.

*Prepare a timeline of the Presidents of the United States, along with picture cards, name tags, and fact cards. Study until you can complete the timeline on your own. You can do this with any other subject that interests you, as well.

*Make your own set of fraction circles, checkerboard, constructive triangle, golden beads, or some other familiar Montessori material. Use it at home. Give a lesson to a sibling or a parent.

*Keep track of the times in your day. Prepare a schedule, or a record of what you did, and at what time. Share!

*Read a story and write about: your favorite part, the best character, the most exciting event, or create a different ending.

*Using 1 cm as a unit, build out of clay, wood, or cardboard pieces to make up units, tens, hundreds, thousands, ten thousands, hundred thousands, millions.

*Prepare a scale model of the solar system in which the distance from the sun to Pluto will be two miles. Prepare carefully measured models of the planets and sun and calculate the distance that each will need to be placed on the scale away from the sun.

*Study an animal or country. Prepare a report to share. Include math, language, and reading with your report. Draw a map. Make a graph.

Feel free to *suggest* to your student any creative and challenging ideas that you think they might enjoy based on their interests or passions. Also encourage your child to come up with their own project.