

One of the core beliefs in Montessori education is that we are preparing the child to be a part of the larger community - of one's school, neighborhood, city, state, country, and planet. The aspects of being part of a community particularly highlighted by Maria Montessori are:

- Empathize with others' circumstances.
- Take part in the action to solve problems that go beyond the immediate environment of the child (giving back to the larger community).
- The ability to work together even while doing different things.

The Young AmeriTowne program is an experience that your child will be able to practice these skills. The lessons and activities are designed to teach students the construct of the free enterprise system. Students learn about banking and how to use their own checking accounts. Once the students receive their job assignments, they participate in specific job trainings to learn more about their positions. The "hands-on" learning experience continues during the staff meeting and the Young AmeriTowne Day. Every economic decision made by participants becomes a learning experience which affect their business or personal finances.

If you have any opportunities for your child to participate in any group activities for this purpose (i.e. Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Team sports, etc.), we'd like to encourage you to let them be a part of it.

I attached some photos below of the materials which students use for Young AmeriTowne.

"There is a great sense of community within the Montessori classroom, where children of differing ages work together in an atmosphere of cooperation rather than competitiveness. There is respect for the environment and for the individuals within it, which comes through experience of freedom within the community." - Maria Montessori

