



VISITOR GUIDELINES

The presence of a visitor affects the classroom atmosphere. So you may observe as natural and typical a day as possible, we ask that you follow these suggestions while you are here today:

1. Please turn off your cell phone!
2. A teacher will direct you to a chair where you may observe the children at work. Please feel free to walk outdoors if you are visiting a toddler classroom.
3. Please do not initiate conversations with the children or with the teachers, unless you are observing in at toddler environment.
4. If a child approaches you and asks a question, answer the child briefly and naturally, but do not extend the conversation. Try to "fade into the wallpaper."
5. The director will come and meet you at the end of your observation period and will address questions you may have at that time.

For a more meaningful observation, we suggest you observe:

- How the children choose their activities, and note their choices.
- The manner in which the children work alone or in groups.
- The degree of interest and concentration displayed by a working child.
- The varying degrees of "ability to follow through", complete a task, and return the materials correctly to their proper place.
- Order in the classroom: physical order; the order in the design of the material; order in the sequence in which an exercise is accomplished; order in the child's use of the material.
- Freedom in the classroom: freedom to choose one's own work; to work alone uninterrupted; to work with another child if that is the wish of both; to move about; to talk quietly.
- How the teacher intervenes and restricts freedom when a child disturbs or interrupts the work of others. How the teacher encourages constructive activity.
- The respect the children are shown and how they respect the materials, their elders and others. Note the willingness of the children to help each other.