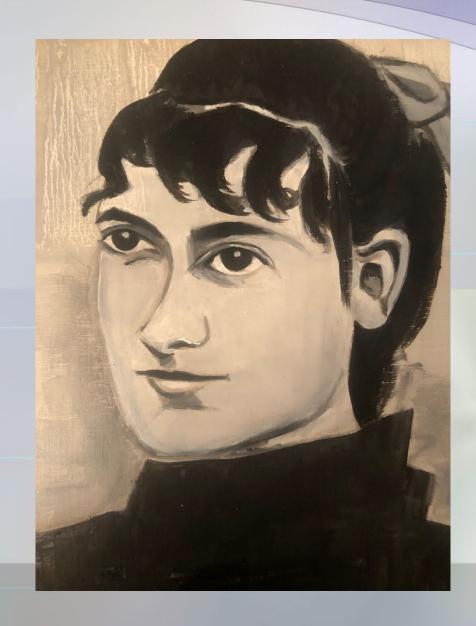


# Maria Montessori (1870-1952)



A drawing of Dr. Maria Montessori by Allison Geneser

# Montessori influence on education

Montessori introduced child-size furniture, now common in most early childhood education environments.

What other innovations did Montessori bring to modern education?

Maria Montessori and a child sitting at a table, manipulating mathematical materials.



https://montessori150.org/maria-montessori/montessori-photos

## Montessori: Science Behind the Genius

Dr. Angeline Lillard, a psychologist from the University of Virginia, has been studying Montessori education for decades <a href="https://www.montessori-science.org/">https://www.montessori-science.org/</a>

In this book, Dr. Lillard outlines nine principles of Montessori education that are universal, worthy of consideration in every learning environment.

Lillard, A. (2016) *Montessori: The Science behind the Genius (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.)* Oxford University Press.

- 1. Movement & Cognition
- 2. Choice
- 3. Executive Function
- 4. Interest
- 5. Extrinsic rewards ≠ motivation
- 6. Learning from & with peers
- 7. Meaningful contexts
- 8. Teacher ways & child ways
- 9. Order in environment & mind

(1) that movement and cognition are closely entwined, and movement can enhance thinking and learning

(2) that learning and well-being are improved when people have a sense of control over their lives

(3) executive function arises from concentrated attention

(4) that people learn better when they are interested in what they are learning

(5) that tying extrinsic rewards to an activity, like money for reading or high grades for tests, negatively impacts motivation to engage in that activity when the reward is withdrawn

(6) that collaborative arrangements can be very conducive to learning

(7) that learning situated in meaningful contexts is often deeper and richer than learning in abstract contexts

(8) that particular forms of adult interaction are associated with more optimal child outcomes

(9) that order in the environment is beneficial to children.

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