**Some Montessori Basics**

* Follow your child’s interest, desire, developmental stage – don’t put your own desires or goals above theirs. Let THEM choose.
* Don’t intervene if you think your child is doing something “wrong”. This just teaches them that adults can do things better than them. Give them time to experiment and figure it out.
* Demonstrate an activity as many times as required for your child to grasp it without criticism or correction.
* Try to encourage one activity at a time and pack away one before the next comes out.
* Work on a mat on the floor or a tray on a table where possible.
* Always sit with your child on your non dominant side when demonstrating an activity to them. For me this is my left. This means my body is open and turned towards them and my right hand will not block their view of what I am demonstrating.
* Foster independence and high self esteem by allowing your child to do the things he/she can do for him or herself.
* Have activities on low shelves or tables so your child can choose without asking for help.
* Don’t make a big issue of “mess” just incorporate cleaning up into the activity.