



NEW WAYS TO LEARN

# Early Years

Montessori



**EKYA  
SCHOOLS**

**We at Ekya believe in a world beyond boundaries where education should continuously evolve and adapt as the world changes.**

Ekya is a community of children, educators and parents where everyone learns together. At Ekya, our students find their purpose, passion and community to make a difference in the world.

## **FIND New Ways to Learn**

Our innovative learning model goes beyond the conventional norms. We apply interdisciplinary skills to think differently and solve real - world problems.

We equip students with skills such as problem solving, collaboration, critical thinking, reflection and global awareness. Students engage in authentic tasks and challenges to investigate each learning area deeply and transfer their learning to new situations.

**The Ekya Early Years Montessori Program is a comprehensive three - year curriculum that promotes sustained and healthy development for children aged from 3 to 6. The program emphasises independent learning in mixed-age classrooms while supporting the child's developmental aspects across physical, cognitive, social, and emotional growth.**

At Ekya Schools, the Montessori environment is thoughtfully crafted and equipped with scientifically developed materials, providing students with the opportunities to learn based on their interests and at their own pace of development.



### **Programs Offered**

## **Exercises of Practical Life**

The Exercises of Practical Life in the Montessori Program include activities designed to teach children practical life skills and help them develop independence, concentration, coordination, and order. These activities are essential to the curriculum as they prepare children for daily life and develop essential life skills.

EPL activities like pouring water, preparing food, cleaning, sweeping, and other household tasks enable children to care for their environment. By performing activities such as washing their hands, brushing their teeth, and getting dressed, they learn to care for themselves. These activities are usually presented in a sequence, each building on the skills and knowledge learned in the previous activity.

### **Core Concepts and Skills**

Self - Esteem • Confidence • A Sense of Responsibility and Order • Concentration and Focus • Muscular Coordination  
• Care of the Self and the Environment



## **Sensorial Activities**

Sensorial activities are a fundamental component of the Montessori approach. These activities involve the using of the five senses - sight, sound, touch, taste, and smell - to help children explore and learn about the world around them.

The sensorial materials in the Montessori environment are self-correcting, meaning that children can work with the materials independently and learn from their mistakes. These materials are also carefully designed to isolate a particular sense, allowing children to focus on specific sensory experiences.

Some examples of sensorial activities in the Montessori environment include - the Pink Tower: Children are encouraged to stack the blocks varying in order, from largest to smallest; the Sound Cylinders- filled with different materials that produce varying sounds when shaken; the Tactile Boards designed with a variety of textures and materials to encourage children to explore different tactile sensations.

### **Core Concepts and Skills:**

Visual Discrimination • Sense of Order • Logical Thinking and Awareness • Organisation Skills • Foundational Language and Arithmetic Skills • Auditory skills • Tactile Skills • Sensory Skills

## Literacy & Language

In the Montessori environment, spoken language is emphasised as the basis for all linguistic expression. Children are encouraged to engage in conversation with their peers and teachers. At the same time, the materials provided in the classroom facilitate the development of skills necessary for oral and written language, as well as reading.

The Language area of the Montessori environment offers various opportunities for building vocabulary, including the precise naming of all objects and materials in the classroom. This approach helps to enrich children's vocabulary skills.

### Core Concepts and Skills

Foundational Writing Concepts  
• Phonetics, Blending Sounds and the Alphabet • Sight Words and Word Building • Constructing sentences • Reading and Writing  
• Listening & Speaking



## Numeracy & Mathematics

In the Montessori environment, math education focuses on sensory exploration, enabling children to learn abstract math concepts by manipulating materials through hands-on exploration and sensory absorption, which helps them to retain information for longer.

To facilitate this learning process, Montessori education employs a three-step approach - Concrete to Pictorial to Abstract (CPA) - and a spiral approach that links current and future learning to prior lessons. Children are introduced to mathematical concepts through hands-on activities, then represent them using pencil images, and progress to the numerical and symbolic algorithms. The Concrete to Pictorial to Abstract (CPA) approach provides the children with a multi-faceted understanding of mathematical concepts.

### Core Concepts and Skills

Pre Number and Number Concepts • Patterns and Shapes • Measurement • Decimal System Basic Operations • Creating • Constructing • Sequencing • Identifying and Describing • Comparing and Contrasting

## Quest

The highlight of the Ekya Early Years program is the Quest Program. It is the perfect opportunity for the students to engage in discussions and conversations that will begin to set them off on an inquiry cycle. The Quest curriculum fosters skills and brings contextual information about the world around them that is interesting enough to hold the student's interest and attention.

Topics are chosen to sustain and pique children's interests and are designed with different experiences enabling children to think independently and critically about the topics under discovery. Some topics for example - Me, around the World, Pushes and Pulls, Weather and its effects and Needs and Wants. Children enjoy interactions, collaborative discussions and individual portfolio assignments through process.

### Core Concepts and Skills

Questioning • Predicting • Observing • Hypothesising  
• Communicating.

## Visual Arts

The Visual Art Curriculum in the Early Years Program develops and sustains natural curiosity, expressiveness, and creativity through exploration, experimentation, and engagement of the senses. Children use the arts to explore sensations and recreate memories of real and imagined events.

Through a sequential development of fine and gross motor skills, the program fosters hand and eye coordination and promotes social, emotional, and cognitive growth. Beginning with scribbling and drawing, students are encouraged to experiment with various mediums, tools, materials, and techniques to explore and create unique works of art using various creative processes. Through this approach, students gain vital skills and develop their artistic abilities.

### Core Concepts and Skills

Curiosity • Explore Different Mediums  
• Use hands to build dexterity and strength to grip • Use drawing as physical movement





## Performing Arts

The Performing Arts Curriculum for Early Years provides our students with opportunities to explore, create and appreciate arts.

The program aims to build basic locomotor movements and skills and harness multiple learning areas like mathematical, sensorial, visual, and higher - order thinking skills. Students begin to appreciate themselves and learn to work collaboratively with their peers for the designed activities to instil imagination and creativity through music, dance, drama and puppetry.

### **Core Concepts and Skills**

Balance, Movement and Rhythm • Body Language and Facial Expressions • Role - Play • Sensory Motor Skills and Spatial Awareness • Observation, Exploration and Experimentation • Creative Imagination, Collaboration, Communication

## Physical Development & Socio Emotional Learning

In the Early Years Program, children are given ample play time that aids in their comprehension of the world where they exercise their imagination and creativity through play and are motivated to think independently.

Outdoor play forms a crucial part of this program, and children are provided with various opportunities to engage in it. These include playing in the playground and using the play area or sandpit. Children can develop their gross and fine motor skills using different tools and equipment. The environment is safe and stimulating, and children are free to choose activities they find interesting, promoting voluntary and unstructured play.

### **Core Concepts and Skills**

Social Skills • Kinaesthetic Skills • Self - Regulation and Self - Care • Fine and Gross Motor Skills • Confidence and Communication

## Storytelling & Puppetry

Storytelling and puppetry are important components of Ekya Early Years curriculum, and they offer several advantages to young children. Through the program, children listen to stories or watch puppets which helps them learn new words and expand their vocabulary and build language skills.

Storytelling and puppetry offer a range of benefits for young children, including language development, cognitive development, imagination and creativity, emotional development, and social skills.

### **Core Concepts and Skills**

Understand and Retain Information • Develop Critical Thinking and Problem - Solving Skills • Build Imagination and Creativity • Create their own Stories and Characters • Understand, Express and Manage Emotions • Taking Turns and Cooperating and Participating in Groups • Responding and Sharing Ideas • Building Listening and Speaking Skills

## Atelier

The Ekya Early Years program hosts a distinctive element known as the Atelier, which serves as a creative laboratory for young children to engage in play - based experimentation with materials.

The Atelier is designed as a space for research, invention, and empathy, where children are encouraged to explore a range of unique and diverse methods. It provides opportunities for children to work with materials that promote various skills, including natural and recyclable materials, as well as miniature objects. Some materials children use at the Atelier space include Light and Shadowboxes, colour acrylic boxes, Me - cube, a Numbers table, Building blocks, Mirrored areas, Puzzles, and art tables.

### **Core Concepts and Skills**

Exploration, Nature and Imagination • Interacting and Collaboration • Communication through the Language of Play • Learning from the Environment • Opportunities for Artful Expression and Explorations