

# The Eight Principles of a Montessori Education

- 1) **Movement and Cognition:** Movement and cognition are closely entwined, and movement can enhance thinking and learning
- 2) **Choice:** Learning and well-being are improved when people have a sense of control over their lives.
- 3) **Interest:** People learn better when they are interested in what they are learning.
- 4) **Extrinsic Rewards are Avoided:** Tying extrinsic rewards to an activity negatively impacts motivation to engage in that activity when the reward is withdrawn.
- 5) **Learning From and With Peers:** Collaborative arrangements can be very conducive to learning.
- 6) **Learning in Context:** Learning situated in meaningful contexts is often deeper and richer than learning in abstract contexts.
- 7) **Respectful Teacher-Child Interaction:** Particular forms of adult interaction are associated with more optimal outcomes.
- 8) **Order in Environment and Mind:** Order in the environment is beneficial to children.

*Source: Montessori: The Science Behind the Genius, by Angeline Lillard (Oxford University Press, 2005)*