

When is my child ready for Primary?

The parents and staff at Counterpane work together to support children in their growth and development, both academically and socially. Before children enter the Primary classroom, they should reach a certain point of maturity. This ensures that children will be ready to successfully respond to and benefit from the Montessori prepared environment.

When is my child ready for the primary classroom?

Potty Training:

1. Has total control over BMs
2. Can go to potty without being reminded
3. Can go to potty independently
4. Can change clothes independently
5. We understand that accidents happen

Able to follow simple directions such as:

1. Comes when called
2. Can wait when asked
3. Can get an object and bring it to a specific place when asked. Example: "Get a spoon and put it on the table."
4. Can stop an activity when asked

A typical day in a Montessori classroom:

Children will watch and repeat individual lessons. They will then be free to move carefully about the room and choose any work from which they have had a lesson, or they may wish to quietly observe. They may carefully work with a material for as long as they like, returning the work to its place as it was found. They may not disturb other's work.

At the end of the work morning they will sit in a group for about twenty minutes and join in the group activities including songs, stories, and grace and courtesy lessons. Group time is followed by lunch and recess.

Children age four may nap, work with a teacher, or choose work depending on the child's needs. Children age five and six will go back to freely choosing work and having lessons. All children will listen to the teacher if any unusual or dangerous situations arise and be able to follow her directions. They will learn to work and move gracefully throughout their day, absorbing the activities that encompass the culture of the classroom.