

SAKTHI FOUNDATION

[Montessori integrated Uni5]

NAMMA VEEDU MONTESSORI SCHOOL

SELF PREPARATION – PART 1



We have prepared this 1 year old baby to live with us for the whole day slowly as both the parents leave the village by 8 A.M.

We all are very well aware that it is very difficult for the young children to get adjust to our situation and there come all unwanted issues in the home. Sometimes the trauma makes the parents - elders to get into world wars but the child will be simply sitting and playing with his car. What makes the child-parents situation bad in certain contexts?

Again it is the inner order constructed by the child with the environment provided to him by the parents and adults. The child below 6 years old is forced to face so many situations by us and to accept immediately without any hesitation. Can we do it for us? How can we expect this child to get adjust immediately?

This is answered through a concept of **"PREPARATION TO FACE AND MOVE"**

Example: This baby was received by his relatives at his 5th moth in Madras Airport after his birth in UK. The baby was so calm, went to everyone and the airhostess said that she has never seen such a baby without any disturbances for past 10 hours from London to Madras. The baby had very good timing in India.

It is not a great thing but something is there. The baby was prepared to move out from his own environment from his 1st month. The mother slowly prepared the child and made the baby to have a good trip.

It is the inner strength of the human brain to absorb and get prepared for any situation. The adults have to spend some time with the children and prepare them for their new situations. What we usually do in schools as Montessori schools face many situations based on various activities. We have also studied parents handling their children in the same way and gave them the good timing. Let us share few tips to prepare very young children below 6 years old.

1. Try to plan the trips and start preparing the child mentally. Daily talk freely with interesting features about the new situation [relative's arrival, hosting, trips, festival gathering].
2. Give the confidence that you both will be there for any time and the child can be on his own with the new members.
3. It is also important to train them that there will be some situations, during which the child has to be independent and move freely.
4. Introduce the new members if possible through their calls, photos and talks about them. Try your best to make those new people close to them.
5. Slowly train the child to get adjust with the non AC rooms, bus trips, crowding, gatherings, loud voices, festivals and this will help them to mingle easily.
6. ***The child cannot be bribed for his actions.*** "If you will behave well in that gathering without crying, while coming back we will get an ice cream for you!" Please stop this bribing.
7. But get an ice cream without narrating that sentence, we can say; "why can't we enjoy the ice cream after this festival while coming back home!"
8. The child will feel disturbed in many contexts; try your best to solve the issues on her own in that group.
9. Try to appreciate your child's behavior. **EXAMPLE:** "Good, I heard from your aunt that you have given your toy to Rithwik without any hesitation, good dear!"
10. At the same times try to say clearly without harshness about some unacceptable behavior. **EXAMPLE:** "I saw you just crying and fighting with that boy while playing, why you need to cry? Try to stop carrying! Talk and solve the issue or come to us!"
11. But all these things cannot get worked with all children. But keep on trying to prepare the child to face the new situation so that the child will be on his own.
12. Especially this preparation will help the child while hosting, guesting and in gatherings.
13. Till few years below 6, this is required.
14. But unfortunately we see many elder children are feeling very hard in many situations.
Try to make the child to feel comfortable with new environments, situations and people by preparing them .
15. ***Say the truth about the situation in calm mood. Please avoid trying lies and compromising the child.***
Example: "Next week father will be leaving the town for a day. Only we both are going to be in the home." This is a very important training required for a very young child to face a situation without his father for couple of days.
16. ***Try to accept your faults with calmness and humbleness.*** Example: "I am sorry that I can't come soon to this evening because I had a meeting!" By saying the truth [to what extent is based on child's age and maturity] the mind is being trained to accept any facts and realities. When you are unable to get something which you have planned and promised, try to tell calmly that you forgot it or you had other commitment so that you could not find time that day to get it. The child will cry or become angry, let it be. ***But you be calm and your way of this approach is the real respect you have shown to your child.***
17. Let us see one example from my school: "Dear children! Today your parents are going to come to meet us. You can be with your mother or father but you cannot just cry. You can also be in the environment with your friends working. But when your parents are leaving you are just going to work here, we will be leaving only after the school ends"...we say this to the young children for at least 10 days before the meeting and we had good timing on that day, except very few all others stayed calmly. This is the inner strength a child has.
18. ***When the chief Educational Officer visited Dr.Montessori's very first school in Rome, none of the children touched the sweets brought by him, because the inner order of them has taught those poor children when and how to accept any gifts from the visitors which has been implemented by the teachers.***
19. ***In worst situation of adamancy, be firm but no harshness and rude to the child.*** Just say, 'NO, IT CAN'T BE DONE AND ACCEPTED BY US'. 10 times you say, the child's inner order will start analyzing the fact.

20. Only we the adults need to spare our golden timings.

“IT IS THE ADULTS’ FATE TO ACCPET THAT THE CHILD IS FACING ANY SITUATIONS GOOD OR BAD FOR THE VERY TIME AND IT IS OUR ROLE TO TRAIN THEM, HELP THEM TO MINGLE SMOOTHLY...” Dr.Jooston [Montessori’s direct student]

Will grow...
Dr.Madeswaran.M