

AKKA Montessori Madagascar

Akanin'ny Kilonga - The Children's House



Montessori for underprivileged children

Following the footsteps of a program that has been established for over a century in advanced countries such as Italy, in the slum of Roma, as the United States, we have been inspired by these success stories to bring the best and offer Quality Education in Madagascar.

Head Start is a Federal program that promotes the school readiness of children from birth to age five from low-income families by enhancing their cognitive, social, and emotional development. Head Start serves over 1 million children and their families in 2,809 programs employing 225,000 staff and teachers. There are more than 20,000 classrooms in the USA

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HEAD START SUCCESES
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A school for
underprivileged children
in the USA

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MONTESSORI SCHOOLS
PAGE 3

Around 25.000
Montessori schools in the
world as of today

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AKKA'S GOALS
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Quality
Ethics
Sharing

AGENDA 2023

Antananarivo
Madagascar

2 September 2023

Inauguration AKKA
Montessori



Bangkok
Thailand

2-5 August 2023

29th International
Montessori Congress



Delft,
Netherlands

14-16 April 2023

Association
Montessori
International General
Assembly



Head Start (USA)

Head Start was launched in 1965 (ten years before the first public Montessori school opened in Cincinnati, Ohio) as a “catch-up” eight-week summer program to help low-income children learn what they needed to start elementary school. The program grew over the years and decades, extending to full-year and multi-year programs, adding health and nutrition components, and really taking off in terms of funding and enrollment in the 1990s through the early 2000s before leveling off. Today, the program serves more than one million children each year with a budget of just over ten billion dollars.

At the same time, there exist just a tiny handful of Montessori Head Start programs—that is, programs implementing Montessori as the main curriculum and serving children funded through Head Start (sometimes intermixed with children funded through other funding streams).

One organization doing great work in this area is the Trust for Learning, a non-profit originally founded to organize philanthropic support for developmentally

appropriate, play-based, whole-child early learning approaches like Montessori.

The Trust has coined the term Ideal Learning to gather together early childhood approaches including Montessori, Reggio Emilia, Friends Center for Children, Tools of the Mind, Bank Street College of Education, and Waldorf, and supports the Ideal Learning Head Start Network to facilitate integration of these approaches into Head Start. Annie Frazer, Executive Director of Montessori Partnerships for Georgia and the Director of the Ideal Learning Head Start Network, was able to help me identify just eight Montessori Head Start programs.

David AYER

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DAVID AYER

David has worked in the private Montessori sector for over twenty years as a parent, teacher of three- to six-year-olds and teens, administrator, writer, speaker and spokesperson. In 2016, he began working with the National Center for Montessori in the public sector. David lives in Portland, Oregon.



Find out more about Montessori schools, 15mn video, in French



SDG4 to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Montessori schools

Montessori schools offer several meaningful advantages for educating children.

Here are some key points to explain these advantages to those less familiar with this approach:

1 Child-centered learning: Montessori schools take an individualised approach to learning. Each child is encouraged to make progress at his or her own pace and to follow his or her own interests. This fosters their intrinsic motivation and enables them to develop to their full potential.

2 Prepared Environment: Montessori classrooms are specially designed to encourage autonomy and self-directed discovery. Children have access to scientific teaching materials adapted to their stage of development, encouraging exploration, creativity and hands-on learning.

3 Holistic Development: Montessori schools emphasise the child's holistic development, giving balanced attention to intellectual, emotional, social and physical aspects. This promotes balanced growth and a better understanding of the world around them.

4 Autonomy and responsibility: Montessori children are encouraged to make decisions and assume responsibility from an early age. They are encouraged to organise themselves, manage their time and collaborate with their peers, fostering the development of essential life skills.

5 Respect for the child: The Montessori approach emphasises respect for the child as a unique individual. Teachers are facilitators who guide and support children in their learning process, while respecting their individuality and autonomy.

6 Practical Learning: Montessori children learn by manipulating practical materials, rather than simply receiving abstract information. This fosters deeper understanding and the acquisition of practical skills that are essential for everyday life.

7 Collaboration and socialisation: Montessori schools encourage collaboration and socialisation between children. Classes bring together children of different ages, enabling younger children to learn from older ones, and older children to reinforce their skills by teaching younger ones.

In a nutshell, Montessori schools offer a stimulating learning environment that fosters children's autonomy, responsibility, creativity and overall development. This unique educational approach prepares children to become motivated learners, independent thinkers and well-rounded individuals in their future lives.

THE CO-FOUNDERS OF AKKA MONTESSORI MADAGASCAR

PATRICIA PETERSON FONTENAY



- Psychologist,
- Founder of two Montessori schools in France,
- 35 years experience in Education, member of the AMF Board of Directors for 18 years
- President of MCF, Montessori Consulting France

Goals and strategic actions of AKKA Montessori Madagascar

QUALITY

To ensure inclusive holistic education and promote lifelong learning.

GOAL 1 : QUALITY MONTESSORI PROGRAMMES

1. **AMI Certification:** An educator certified by the AMI Association Montessori International for the age level of the group of children in their care.
2. **Classe size:** 30 children within 70 square metres indoor classroom and 500 square meters outdoor.
3. **Class Composition:** AKKA - Akanin'ny Kilonga (the children's house) is made up of children from two and half or three up to six plus years.
4. **Schedule:** The work of the child is not interrupted in any way by adult-designed scheduling. There should be a minimum of 5 consecutive days per week
5. **Matériel:** To provide a full range of material to enable children to explore the world, to apprehend it and to build and develop themselves through: **practical life, sensory life, mathematics, language and culture.**
6. **Parents' training:** to inform and involve parents in the day-to-day running of the school.
7. **Language:** A bilingual Malagasy-French environment

GOAL 2 : PREPARED ENVIRONMENT

1. **Indoor Environment:** Furniture: tables, chairs, shelves and tools to children's size.
2. **Outdoor Environment:** Respect the environment through practical activities such as gardening and caring for plants and animals.
3. **Water Saving programme** by developing dry toilets and the use of a rain tank
4. **Energy Saving** by expanding permaculture projects to families and implementing solar panels.
5. **Biodiversity Protection** through trees and mangrove planting

GOAL 3 : COMMUNICATION

1. Development of controlled movement, language, independence and self-discipline
2. Children are invited to exhibit high levels of concentration. We work to establish culture of respect, empathy and social harmony.
3. **Trilingualism:** Malagasy, French and English by hiring native speaker guides, through Partnership, with international clubs and schools
4. Putting in place cultural and linguistic exchange projects.

THE CO-FOUNDERS OF AKKA MONTESSORI MADAGASCAR

JACKIE SUTTER RANDRIANTSOA



- Founder of Education For Madagascar
- Former Consultant in Information Systems and Management, Finance Controller at IBM France
- Member of AWS American Women of Surrey
- Member of Zonta International (Zonta stands for women's rights, advocate for equality, education and an end to child marriage and gender-based violence.)

Goals AKKA Montessori Madagascar (more)

ETHICS

Pour une école qui inspire confiance

GOAL 4 : CHILD AND HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Montessori Methodology of Observation will be applied
2. The school will raise a clear and strong plea against child labour
3. Registration will take into account the equal opportunities for girls and boys

GOAL 5 : GOOD GOVERNANCE

1. The school commits to operate with the law and meet all local health and safety regulations.
2. Implementing written procedures that ensure continuous quality in management and compliance. The financial statements are audited and certified by an external auditor.
3. The school offers support, guidance and observation opportunities for the parents and the community.

GOAL 6 : TRANSPARENCY

- Open and straightforward on the operations through Publication.

SHARING

For a school accessible to all thanks to the generosity at each level.

GOAL 7 : AWARENESS

1. Children spontaneously teach children
2. Sponsored under-graduated students are hired as volunteers
3. The school organises personal development and team building events on regular basis

GOAL 8 : PUBLIC INTEREST

- **Free** education for children in need with a priority for low income but **motivated** families.

GOAL 9 : NATIONAL INCLUSION

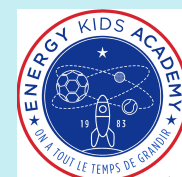
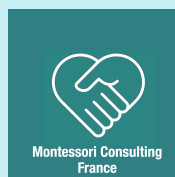
- Advocate for a massive change in national education policy through a partnership with the **Ministry of Education in Madagascar**

GOAL 10 : INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK

1. Member of **ECOSOC (United Nations)**
2. Member of **UNESCO**
3. Member **ESF Educateurs Sans Frontières**



PARTNERSHIP AND SPONSORS



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