



# NORCO MONTESSORI ACADEMY

“Where Your Kids Spread Their Wings”



## A note to our families

Happy May! The year is quickly coming to an end and what a wonderful year it's been. May is jam packed with events so be sure to mark your calendars. Teacher Appreciation Week is May 9th-13<sup>th</sup>. We have our Parent Appreciation Breakfast on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. and we will be closed on Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup> for the Memorial Day Holiday.



We would also like to wish a very Happy Mother's Day to all of our Amazing Mother's!

“THE MOST IMPORTANT PERIOD OF LIFE IS NOT THE AGE OF UNIVERSITY STUDIES, BUT THE FIRST ONE, THE PERIOD OF BIRTH TO AGE SIX.”  
-MARIA MONTESSORI



### Did you know???

Perceptual motor development refers to the process by which children learn to coordinate their sensory perceptions (such as vision and hearing) with motor actions (such as reaching, walking, or grasping). This development is crucial for effective interaction with the environment and lays the groundwork for more complex skills, including reading, writing, and problem-solving. According to Gallahue, Ozmun, and Goodway (2012), perceptual motor development involves the integration of sensory input with motor output, enabling children to make appropriate physical responses to environmental stimuli.

During early childhood, the brain undergoes rapid growth and neural connections that support perceptual and motor skills become increasingly sophisticated. For example, infants develop hand-eye coordination as they learn to reach for and grasp objects, a fundamental skill that evolves into more refined tasks like using utensils or drawing (Case-Smith & O'Brien, 2014).

Research highlights the importance of providing children with a stimulating environment rich in sensory and motor experiences. According to Shumway-Cook and Woollacott (2017), opportunities for active play support the maturation of perceptual motor skills and contribute to cognitive and social development. In structured educational settings, incorporating movement-based learning can enhance academic performance and attentional control. (Donnelly et al., 2016).

#### References:

- >Case-Smith, J., & O'Brien, J.C. (2014). *Occupational Therapy for Children and Adolescents* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). Elsevier Health Sciences.
- >Donnelly, J.E., Hillman, C.H., Castelli, D., Etnier, J.L., Lee, S., Tomporowski, P., & Szabo-Reed, A.N. (2016). Physical activity, fitness, cognitive function, and academic achievement in children: A systematic review. *Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise*, 48(6), 1197-1222.
- >Gallahue, D.L., Ozmun, J.C., & Goodway, J. D. (2012). *Understanding Motor Development: Infants, Children, Adolescents, Adults* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). McGraw-Hill.
- >Shumway-Cook, A., & Woollacott, M.H. (2017). *Motor Control: Translating Research into Clinical Practice* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Wolters Kluwer.

### May Birthdays

- Levi B. 05/01
- Aurora W. 05/02
- Karim P. 05/03
- A'million L. 05/07
- Anahi K. 05/07
- Eleanor M. 05/07
- Aurelia O. 05/09
- Oberon O. 05/09
- Gia A. 05/11
- Ian N. 05/15
- Matthew Z. 05/20
- Ms. Maria M. 05/25

### Dates to Remember

#### Teacher Appreciation

May 9th-13th

#### Mother's Day

May 11th

#### Parent Appreciation

May 16th

#### Memorial Day-Closed

May 26th

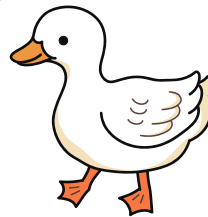
## May Rhymes and Fingerplays

### 5 Little Butterflies

Five Little Butterflies went out to play  
The first one said, "It's a windy day!"  
The second one said, "Look at me, Look at me!"  
The third one said, "Let's fly to that tree!"  
The fourth one said, "Let's fly to the sun!"  
The fifth one said, "We are having so much fun!"  
Then Whoosh went the wind, and up they all blew.  
Then they danced in the sky and away they flew!

### Lucky Duck

Oh it was a bit of luck  
that I was born a baby duck.  
With yellow socks and yellow shoes  
that I may go wherever I choose.  
Quack, Quack, Quack, Quack



### Book Recommendations:

"Planting a Rainbow" By: Lois Ehlert  
"I Love Bugs" By: Philemon Sturges  
"The Little Mouse, The Red Ripe Strawberry and  
The Big Hungry Bear" By: Audrey Wood

## May Curriculum: Pre-Primary/Primary

### Week 1:

Mother's Day

### Week 2:

All about Dinosaurs

### Week 3:

Vegetables & Fruits

### Week 4:

Numbers & Letter Review

## Advanced Primary

### Week 1:

Mother's Day

### Week 2:

Animal Habitats

### Week 3:

Review

### Week 4:

Review

