



Nido



Our Nido Community focuses on two basic needs of the infant: a safe, bonded relationship between adult and child, and the development of the child's growing sense of self and independence. The word Nido is derived from the Italian word meaning nest, a word that conveys the spirit of our infant environment. Trust is a basic need that must be nurtured in the young child. Our trained Nido staff care for and respectfully respond to the needs of each infant while encouraging the development of that trust and conveying a message of unconditional love and acceptance. Each Nido classroom has nine babies ranging from ages eight weeks to 18 months. MAC maintains an adult to child ratio of 1:3 with a Montessori Certified Lead Teacher and two Assistant Teachers in each of our classrooms.

Our Nido Program is specifically designed to create a safe and loving environment that allows for freedom of exploration.



Innovative Academics

In our Montessori Nido program, infants learn through what Dr. Maria Montessori called the absorbent mind. In this critical period of development, infants absorb, learning from their environment without conscious effort, naturally and spontaneously. MAC's Nido program strives to foster independence, physical development, and language development for infants through an open and safe classroom. Our Nido classrooms are language rich environments where every interaction is an opportunity for language development. Sign language is also used in all Nido classrooms in order to help the young child communicate effectively.



Exploration of Character

Our classrooms are comforting, warm, and inviting; the simplicity and order support discovery of the world. Infants learn not only from their teachers but also from one another. This is through observation, opportunities to explore their independence in a safe environment, and social interaction. Self-feeding is one of the early ways that babies practice independence. When they are able to do so, children sit in a chair at a table just their size. They are introduced to child-sized utensils, plates and glasses to teach them how to do things on their own, giving them a sense of pride and setting a foundation for confidence and continued curiosity.



Fearless, Forward Mindset

In the Nido classroom infants continue to grow physically and it is through purposeful movement that a child is perfecting and refining basic coordination of the body. They learn to roll over, sit, crawl, and walk within an environment that builds their confidence and supports their innate desire for independence. The children also leave the classroom for daily walks both inside the school as well as around the neighborhood in buggies to further promote interest in exploring their world.

The Montessori Academy of Colorado is a metropolitan school that engages each child through innovative academics, exploration of character, and a fearless, forward mindset.