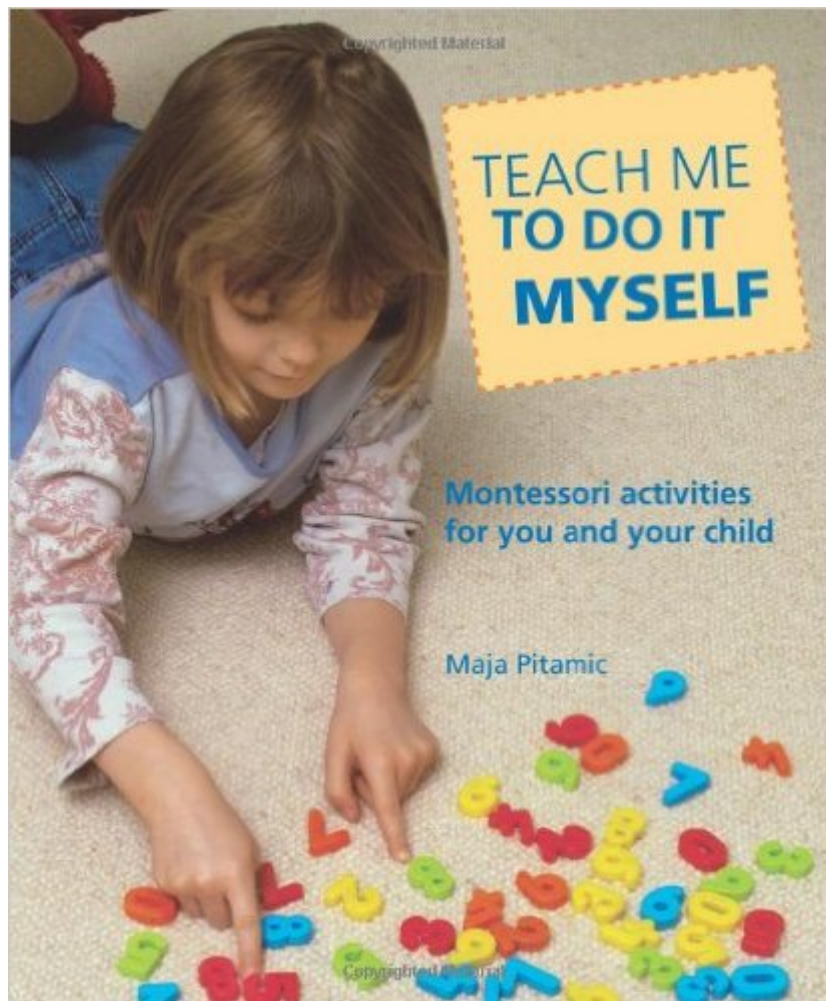


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# Teach Me To Do It Myself: Montessori Activities For You And Your Child



## Synopsis

Based on the key Montessori principle that children learn best through active experience, *Teach Me to Do It Myself* presents simple activities through which children explore and develop their skills. These skill areas include sensory perceptions, body coordination, language, understanding of numbers, and movement. This practical, color-illustrated parenting book is filled with activities and instructions for overseeing children as they carry out a variety of learning activities. Most activities will seem simple to parents, because once mastered, adults perform them automatically. However, toddlers experience a sense of accomplishment and self-worth when they learn to perform them independently. The many activities start with dressing and personal hygiene, then go on to include . . . Pouring activities Threading and sewing activities Peg activities Cutting with scissors Sorting activities by touch A color matching game Making musical scales with bottles and water Using alphabet tiles to make words Growing things in a window box Making finger puppets Activities are described in detail and include checklists of needed items, as well as variations and related activities for children to try.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I also have *\_Montessori Play & Learn\_* and *\_Teaching Montessori in the Home: The Preschool Years\_*. This one contains the same type of activities, but somehow makes it seem simpler than the others, and seems to require less complicated special equipment to be bought or made. If you're only going to buy one Montessori book to use with your preschooler, I would recommend this one. Update: This book is perfect if you just want to do some Montessori-style activities with your

preschooler. However, if you want a deeper understanding of the Montessori Method, the materials, and the exercises, I'd suggest you \*also\* get *Basic Montessori* (Clio Montessori). That book can be intimidating (see my review), but does give some excellent and in-depth explanations. Use the two together for the best of both worlds.

The Introduction includes: a Preface; "Who was Montessori"; "How to use this book"; and "Frequently asked questions" (seven in all). There are five chapters with activities you can do at home or in a classroom setting: "Life skills, Developing the senses, Language development, Numeracy skills," and "Science skills." Each activity has a picture, a numbered list of directions, a list of "You will need," and "Other activities to try." Most activities include a "Tip box," a "Word activity" (language), and a "Safety Point." In the back of the book are worksheets to use (copy) for making several of the activities shown in the book. The "Life skills" chapter includes: activities for personal hygiene, dressing, polishing, pouring, spooning, tonging, open close, threading, weaving, sewing cards, and cutting. The "Developing the senses" chapter includes: activities for exploring textures and objects and learning about shape, size, height, length, color, sound, smell, and taste. The "Language development" chapter includes: guidelines to help you select books for your child and guidelines for reading to your child; activities for word play, phonics and learning the letters of the alphabet, word building (Moveable Alphabet), and picture cards (Reading Tablets); making phrases, sentences, a diary, a book, a family tree, and a picture poem. The "Numeracy skills" chapter includes: sorting, counting and learning numbers one to ten, number sequencing, simple addition and subtraction, introducing money, and number songs. The "Science skills" chapter includes: leaf collecting, flower puzzle, planting, understanding volume, float and sink, the weather, geography including globe and map and land forms, mixing colors, and baking. Worksheets (in the back of the book) for several of the activities shown in the book: \*Learning height and length (similar to the Number Rods). Make color copies, enlarge them, cut them out. \*Two-dimensional shapes: geometric shapes, in black outline, of circles, squares, and triangles from largest to smallest. Make a copy and cut out shapes or make two copies for matching shapes. \*Identifying letters: alphabet letters in black and white lower case shown on the line. Make copies and cut out. You can also color them in using red and blue markers or colored pencils for the Moveable Alphabet. You can also enlarge them when you make a copy for making the Sandpaper Letters. \*Word building: black and white cards with pictures and three-letter short vowel phonetic words (six cards for each vowel for a total of 30 cards). Copy and cut them out for a Reading Tablets activity, or your own language creation. You can also color the pictures in (recommended). \*Constructing phrases: a list of articles, adjectives,

verbs, and prepositions.\*Make a flower puzzle: black and white drawing of a flower, and its parts in labels.I give this book five stars out of five. It is well organized, full of information, and easy to understand with nice photos and drawings. The activities are those found in Montessori classrooms and can be duplicated at home. I think it is ideal for ages 2 1/2 to 5.

The very first line of this book indicates that the activities it includes are perfect for a 3 - 5 year old child. Having thumbed through it, it is chock full of great, simple activities that are indeed perfect for a child of this age range. Unfortunately, nothing in the description of this book indicated that this was the case, and I've just purchased it to use with my 2 year old child. While I'm certain I will be able to use the book in the future for many hours of educational enjoyment and discovery, I am disappointed that the description did not make clear that this book would have little to offer at the present time.

I checked this out of our local library and found it easy to follow, bright and fun to look at with color photos, and full of resources like pages to photocopy in the back. Also, the activities made me really excited about Montessori methods. The math section was especially nice. I am online today to order my own copy because three weeks to borrow it was not long enough!

This is a wonderful book for parents wanting to do basic Montessori activities at home, and it also suggests inexpensive ways to make activities as well. I gave this book one less star because it doesn't tell you what activities are age appropriate. I know all children develop and excel in different ways and times, but a little more guidance would have been helpful.

I am very fond of this book. It is a great guide offering almost "duh!" like activities (things that you would never even think of going out of your way to teach your kids) to do with your toddler in order to help them gain a sense of independence and accomplishment. That said, almost all the activities can be done without going out and buying a whole bunch of materials. I particularly like this book as a mom interested in the Montessori method, but not being able to afford to put my children in the pricey Montessori schools in my area. The book is easy and pleasant to read; it's in colour and has plenty of photos. Also, if there is an activity your child really likes, it has suggestions for other activities similar in nature. I like that the book shows you many of the activities they do, but leaves it up to you how you would like to present them to your kids. The book does not specifically tell you what age range the child has to be in order to present an activity, but it does state in the beginning

that it presents the activities in order of being the easier concepts to grasp to the more difficult (specifically chapters 1,2, & 5). The author tells you to use your judgement on what you think your child can handle (for instance if they seem to like counting and maths, they will more likely progress faster with the maths activities. I personally would've liked a generic age range per activity, but I understand the point the author is trying to make. I just like that the author gives us the activities the Montessori schools do, but doesn't require the reader to completely apply the Montessori method. I plan on using this as a reference since I would like to educate my children myself until they reach kindergarten.

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