



*AMC Montessori  
Spring 2010 Hands-On  
Creative Lesson  
Planning Newsletter*

## *The AMC Montessori Newsletter*

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*Heidi Anne Spietz, Editor*

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*<http://www.amonco.org>*

The AMC resource participants have generously shared hands-on activities that you will want to use in coming months. You'll be impressed with the ingenuity and creativity expressed in the recipes and crafts they have chosen to share with you. Use their ideas to foster interest in science, social studies, art, mathematics, and other academic hands-on learning activities. Integrate the recipes and crafts into your multicultural lesson planning as well.

Hopefully, you will let the participants know how much you have enjoyed their recipe(s) and craft(s). Visit the websites listed throughout the newsletter. You'll find additional helpful lesson information at these sites.

American Montessori Consulting is not responsible for any of the crafts or recipes posted here. All of the crafts and recipes are copyrighted and are the property of the participating AMC resource organizations listed in this newsletter. For questions concerning their individual copyrighted material, you need to visit the website listed in association with the craft(s) and recipe(s) that interest you and obtain the telephone number and/or e-mail address of the contact person(s).

If you would like friends on special listservs to know of this newsletter, please request that they download the newsletter directly from

[http://www.amonco.org/montessori\\_spring\\_handson.html](http://www.amonco.org/montessori_spring_handson.html)

Use special precautions when involving children in any craft or recipe where there is a potential for harm. Some children have special food allergies and/or other medical conditions like diabetes. Small children need supervision. Scissors, hot glue, hot stoves and ovens, and other elements in making some of these recipes and crafts need to be considered. Please consider carefully the age and maturity level of the child before allowing him or her to participate.

Be sure to visit each resource participant's site to see the marvelous selection of educational offerings you can use in your school and home classrooms. You'll also find creative, unique educational gift items that are sure to be enjoyed by the special young people in your life.

The following creative ideas are from the AMC Montessori Resource Center <http://www.amonco.org/directory.html> participants. Visit their websites for additional innovative ways to reach your students throughout the school year.



## **Contents of Part I of the AMC Montessori Spring 2010 Hands-On Creative Lesson Planning Newsletter**

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Geography Catch Games  
Math Sequencing

# *Cantemos*

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**Website:** <http://www.cantemosco.com/>

## *Activities Submitted by Georgette Baker*

### **Make a Festive Hat for Easter, Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day and more...**

Spring is on its way and so is Easter, Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day and of course children's birthdays. Make a beautiful hat out of newspaper or butcher paper.

NEWSPAPERS need three sheets

1. Put large sheets of newspapers on child's head in a varied pattern (not evenly together).
2. Have child hold paper in place on his/her head as you use masking tape to shape the band of the hat. (find child's brow area, start the tape there and work it tightly around once so that hat will fit child's head)
3. Grab ends of newspaper in front of child's face and roll into a brim, work your way around the entire head, tape where necessary.
4. Decorate with flowers, feathers, cut outs, whatever the theme.

Same hat can be made with one sheet of butcher paper 3'x3' tape is necessary only to form the shape of the head area, the paper is stiff enough that it doesn't require tape on the brim.

### **More Foreign Language Fun From the Cantemos Lesson Plan Library**

Periquito: the story of Little Parakeet

Original story by Georgette Baker, teacher, multicultural performer and music producer

**Cantemos Bilingual Books and Music**  
email: [bakergeorgette@yahoo.com](mailto:bakergeorgette@yahoo.com)

Grade level: pre-K, K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Description: students will learn the words and movements to the "Periquito" song. the song will be learned in Spanish and simple vocabulary will be introduced. Students will also learn animals of the jungle, desert, forest or farm (at the teacher's discretion). A follow-up story wheel will be made so students can retell story at home.

**GOAL:** introduce children to:

a Spanish song

Spanish vocabulary and pronunciation

animals from another part of the world

storytelling which allows for creativity and language mastery

enthusiasm for music from another country

sharing with family song, music, language acquisition and follow-up story wheel with family

**MATERIALS:**

2 paper plates for each child

crayons or colored pencils

paper fastener for each child

scissors

CD player or cassette player

sheet with Periquito and other animals from story available from Cantemos

story/song of PERIQUITO-from Simple Spanish Sing Along Songs

CANTEMOS-bilingual books and music <http://www.simplespanishsongs.com>

### **PREPARATIONS**

- 1.purchase story of PERIQUITO
- 2.listen to story and song and be familiar with movements to be taught
- 3.cue song

### **PROCEDURES:**

1. introduce children to vocabulary in song
2. teach song
3. sing song with music and movement.
  - a. "por arriba" point up and have children follow your movements
  - b. "por abajo" point down
  - c. "por delante" point to chest
  - d. "por detrás" point to back ( I touch behind my shoulders)
4. Tell story of Periquito in English or play CD or tape and have children join in for:  
walking sounds by clapping hands three times, when Periquito walks  
pointing in the direction song indicates  
indicating in repeating sentence "I'm not your Pop, but I know who you are."  
point to self "I'm not your Pop" point in front as if to another "but I know who you are."
5. Ask children to suggest an animal that has been introduced by the teacher or use animals from song: tiger, elephant, giraffe, alligator
6. Students make story telling wheel to take home and retell story to their family

## **VOCABULARY:**

por arriba : from the top, on top of

por abajo : from the bottom, underneath

por delante: from the front, in front of

por detras: from the back, behind

te pareces a tu papá: you look just like your Pop

periquito: little parakeet

## **SING A SONG IN SPANISH**

Los Pollitos is a traditional children's song learned in all Spanish speaking countries. Children can learn the song and the hand movements to go with it as well as the English translation (performed to the same movements). A lesson plan on hatching of chicks, what they eat and how their mother keeps them safe and warm can be included.

You can hear the song performed on the Cantemos Chiquitos CD from [http://www.cantemosco.com/cantemos\\_chiquitos.htm](http://www.cantemosco.com/cantemos_chiquitos.htm)

Helpful hints the “Ll” in Spanish is pronounced like the “y” in yellow  
All vowels have only one pronunciation and they are all sounded out  
a “ah”, e “eh”, i “eee”, o “oh”, u “oooo”

## **LOS POLLITOS**

Los pollitos dicen "pío, pío, pío" cuando tienen hambre, cuando tienen frío.  
La gallina busca el maíz y el trigo, les da la comida y les presta abrigo

Acurrucaditos bajo las dos alas hasta el otro día duermen los pollitos  
Hand motions for the song:

"cuando tienen hambre" “when hungry” (rub your stomach)

"cuando tienen frío" “or when cold”(cross your arms and shiver)

"la gallina busca el maíz y trigo" (move your head up and down)

"les da comida" (extend your open hand)

"y les presta abrigo" (hug yourself)

"Bajo sus dos alas acurrucaditos" "warm and safe beside her"(hug your neighbor)

"duermen los pollitos""cluck, cluck, cluck she whispers" (put your head in your hands and close your eyes)

## **THE LITTLE CHICKIES**

See the little chickies, they aren't very old  
They chirp "pio, pio" when hungry and when cold

Mother chicken scratches for something good to eat  
Wheat and bits of corn, she gathers at her feet.

Warm and safe beside her , underneath her wings  
"cluck, cluck, cluck," she whispers  
"cluck, cluck, cluck," she sings.

## **EASY EASTER TIE-DYE**

This simple activity requires Sharpie pens of various colors and rubbing alcohol in a bottle that allows NO MORE THAN a drop at a time to come out.

### **MATERIALS**

Squares of white cotton cloth (5x5)

SHARPIE pens (permanent markers) no black or brown

Rubber bands (one per child)

Paper or plastic cups

Rubbing alcohol in a bottle that allows NO MORE THAN a drop at a time to come out.

### **PROCEDURES**

Place cloth on rim of cup, hold in place with rubber band.

Allow children to gather round a table where there are a variety of colored Sharpies and draw designs of their own making on the cloth part stretched over the mouth of the glass.

Once designs are done have them place a few drops of alcohol in the center of their design. The alcohol will dissolve the ink and allow it to blur.

Alcohol will dry immediately and cloths can

1. Be given to mothers as handkerchiefs on Mother's Day,
2. Sewn together to make a large quilt for the classroom.
3. used as personal hankies

**For internet resources, assemblies, an author bio, lessons from recycled instruments and other lessons please visit:**

<http://www.cantemosco.com>



## *About Cantemos*

Cantemos produces a line of children's bilingual books, music and flannel board figures. All CD's come with accompanying books of lyrics both in English and Spanish. Produced by multicultural, multilingual performer, Georgette Baker these CD's and books are for ages pre-k-6th grade. 800-393-1336, mention Montessori and receive free shipping on any Cantemos item.

All AMC readers will want to visit <http://www.cantemosco.com> for additional information about the complete product line available.



# Nation Relation

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Website: <http://winid.com/nationrelation/order.html>

## Activity Submitted by Joan McGivney

*( Note : The creator of Nation Relation is making a pledge to help the children of the Congo nation, (a country that is included in her game) that she will donate \$5 for every game she sells in the year 2010 to a Congo children's relief agency. She has been observing in the news about the drastic suffering of the people of the Congo and wants us all to help in relief efforts.*

Creator of Nation Relation, Joan McGivney believes that children need to learn about other cultures and people of the world. That is the way they grow to appreciate and respect different cultures.

Here are a couple of activities that she found to be rewarding for your students.

### **GEOGRAPHY CATCH GAMES**

Game #1 Children will soon become familiar with names of other nations by playing this game.

Materials needed: Foam ball ('earth ball' would be especially appropriate)

Stand in a circle with at least three others. The first person tosses

the ball to another person and calls out a nation name. The person receiving the ball repeats the same nation and calls out a different nation name as he tosses to another person. That person must then say both nation names and then add another name and toss it to the next person. This continues until all children have had a chance.

Since this is not meant to be a competitive

game, it is fine to let the other children in the circle 'coach' or help the player to remember the names.

#### Game #2

For older students who know more about the world and want to learn more (and don't mind getting out of the circle if they don't know the answer), try this variation:

Materials needed: Foam ball ('earth ball' would be especially appropriate)

Optional: Stories from 'Nation Relation' or other geography tools/books -

in case students are not familiar with geography facts and want to research a few

nations before you play this game.

These can also be helpful during the play in case you need references. Students still stand in a circle and perform the same actions of tossing the ball to another, but instead of responding to the nation's name by adding another name, instead must tell a city, land mark land feature, animal or food from that nation. If he /she is correct, he/she remains in the circle and names another (or same) nation and tosses the ball to another student. If he can't, he is out of the circle. Play until no one is left in the circle. The last one in is the winner. (Note: If you wish to play the noncompetitive version of this game, allow students to help each other and allow everyone to remain in the circle. The game is over when everyone has had a chance to toss the ball).

Example:

Tory (tossing the ball to Katie): Egypt  
Katie (receives the ball): Sahara desert  
(tosses the ball to Eric ): United States  
Eric (receives the ball): Statute of Liberty  
(tosses the ball to Drew): United States  
Drew (receiving the ball ): Mississippi River



## *About Nation Relation*

**SPECIAL OFFER:** We really want children to learn about the world and our world's people. The only way we can give peace a chance is to start with our children and teach them understanding and tolerance of others. Nation Relation (award-winning memory game/educational tool ) is now available in a **more economical way - in a zip lock bag** (with a Nation Relation label) You can order the **directions and stories in Spanish** at no additional charge. To learn more contact the author and visit her website:

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346 Tulip Drive  
Webster Groves, MO 63119  
PHONE # (314)9620389

**Website:** <http://winid.com/nationrelation/order.htm>

<http://winid.com/nationrelation/order.htm>

**E-mail address:** [nationrelation@yahoo.com](mailto:nationrelation@yahoo.com)

# Conceptual Learning

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Website: <http://www.conceptuallearning.com>

## Math Sequencing

**Numeration is the basis for all math concepts. An important aspect of that understanding is the ability to sequence numbers from least to greatest. Exercises are very easy to make.**

### **Preparation**

Place a sheet of cardstock or heavy-weight paper in "landscape position."

Divide paper into 24 small rectangles (six sections across, and four sections down).

Label first row with a small letter "A" in the lower right-hand corner of each rectangle.

In the same manner, label the second row of six with the letter "B", the third row with "C", and the fourth row with a "D".

Using a fine marker, write a sequence of numbers in each row.

Cut out all the rectangles, and place them in a container such as a hardware drawer, envelope, or small zip-lock bag.

### **Exercise**

Sort the rectangles by letter. The A's will be in one pile, the B's in another, and so on.

Spread out the cards in the "A" group so all numbers are visible.

Sequence the cards in order from least to greatest.

Below the "A" sequence, repeat the process with the "B" cards.

Sequence the "C" and "D" cards in the same way.

### **Types of sequences**

A variety of sequences can be devised. These include one-digit, two-digit, three-digit, four digit, six-digit, odd, even, multiples, fractions, decimals, and integers..

## Samples

Visit <http://www.amonco.org/decimalorder.pdf>  
<http://www.amonco.org/fourdigitorder.pdf>  
<http://www.amonco.org/fractionorder.pdf>  
<http://www.amonco.org/Integerorder.pdf>  
<http://www.amonco.org/Instructionsforexercises.pdf>

for the PDF files with instructions as well as specific exercises in four-digit, fraction, decimal, and integer sequences. Merely place cardstock or heavy-weight paper in your printer to generate the exercises. Many additional exercises are available for purchase.



## *About Conceptual Learning Materials*

Conceptual Learning Materials is expanding its upper level math line. New developments include Percent and Advanced Geometry task cards. Scientific Notation, Order of Operations, Problem Solving F, and Mixed Practice F are in the development phase.

The company's entire math line, Insights into Math Concepts, has long been used by all levels of Montessorians to bridge concrete and abstract. Each concept is thoroughly explored through a series of exercises designed to promote discovery, build math intuition, and hone critical thinking skills. Materials are child-centered and require little adult supervision

Exercise sets come in a variety of formats and may be purchased individually or as part of discounted sets. Visit <http://www.conceptuallearning.com> or call 281-488-3252 for details.



**Read the other parts of this creative hands-on lesson  
planning newsletter by visiting  
[http://www.amonco.org/montessori\\_spring\\_handson.html](http://www.amonco.org/montessori_spring_handson.html)**

*End of Part 1*

