



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

*The AMC Montessori Newsletter*

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

More Hands-On Equations® Basic Algebraic Concepts

Download free French, Spanish, German, Italian and Chinese songs with lyrics and translations.

The Sensitive Period of Language

# Hands-On Equations®

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

## Math Activity Submitted by Dr. Borenson of Borenson and Associates

1. Jim is 4 years older than twice Sally's age. If the sum of their ages is 10 more than Sally's age, how old is each?
2. What is the value of  $x$ , if twice the value of  $x$  and the sum of 3 is 16, i.e.  $2(x+3) = 16$ ?



## About Dr. Borenson of Borenson and Associates

To provide your child, grade 3-8, with an interesting hands-on mathematical learning experience with basic algebraic concepts (which would make it easier for him/her to solve the above problems), look into HANDS-ON EQUATIONS® developed by Dr. Henry Borenson at the <http://www.Borenson.com> website.



# Professor Toto®

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

Download FREE Language Workshop for Children, Professor Toto® vocabulary-rich songs.

## Your Free French Song

<http://www.professortoto.com/songs/malade.mp3>

*Je suis malade*

## Your Free Spanish Song

<http://www.professortoto.com/songs/doctor.mp3>

*Doctor, doctor*

## Your Free Italian Song

[http://www.professortoto.com/songs/Dottore\\_sono\\_malato.mp3](http://www.professortoto.com/songs/Dottore_sono_malato.mp3)

*Dottore, sono malato!*

## Your Free German Song

[http://www.professortoto.com/songs/Doktor\\_ich\\_bin\\_krank.mp3](http://www.professortoto.com/songs/Doktor_ich_bin_krank.mp3)

*Doktor, ich bin krank*

## Your Free Chinese Song

[http://www.professortoto.com/songs/mother\\_youre\\_so\\_great.mp3](http://www.professortoto.com/songs/mother_youre_so_great.mp3)

**Mother! You're so great!**

Students absorb meaning, pronunciation, and grammar by hearing and singing original, language-building songs from the LWFC's Professor Toto Multi-Media Language Education Kit. As they listen and sing, children learn words they can use to see a doctor in another country.

Teachers, download the English and target language lyrics at

[http://www.professortoto.com/songs/All\\_Songs.pdf](http://www.professortoto.com/songs/All_Songs.pdf)



## *About Professor Toto®*

Students love watching, laughing, singing, interacting, and responding with Professor Toto and his lively friends and start building an inventory of French, Spanish, Chinese, Italian, and German meanings, pronunciation, and grammatical templates.

Professor Toto was developed by The Language Workshop for Children's François Thibaut, a practicing children's language expert and tested in his own classrooms. That's why Professor Toto won six major children's educational media awards and is celebrated by teachers and parents alike.

Professor Toto's colorful, lively, and stimulating animated DVDs, CDs, and Workbooks mirror Thibaut's teaching philosophy: "children remember words that make them happy." For more information visit [www.ProfessorToto.com](http://www.ProfessorToto.com). Best of all AMONCO teachers get a 20% discount! **Just mention that you read the AMONCO newsletter published by American Montessori Consulting.** Visit <http://www.ProfessorToto.com> today.



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

*Article Submitted by Heidi Spietz*

## **The Sensitive Period of Language**

The sensitive periods represent critical points of a child's development. The sensitive period for language occurs from birth to about age six. It is at this time that the child learns the primary language spoken in the home. He also has the ability to learn and fluently speak other languages.

Children are fascinated by sounds around them. In fact, the infant intently watches the human face, focusing on the mouth of the person speaking. As Montessori indicated, the infant needs to be in close proximity to people to study their interactions and conversations. Placing a child off in a distant room where he only hears bits and pieces of a conversation is a great disservice, as the child fails to hear complete sentences or thoughts.

The infant is delighted with the rhythm of the human voice and is fascinated with the sounds of the spoken word. Because the child is in the sensitive period of the absorbent mind, we need to focus our attention on taking full advantage of this developmental period in that child's life. I highly recommend that you borrow Maria Montessori's **The Absorbent Mind** from your library to learn more about how you can help your infant benefit from this crucial sensitive period.

Take time to read aloud to your child. Sing songs, recite poetry and read stories. Although the child hears other noises and sounds, the child selectively only reproduces the human voice. During this sensitive period for learning language single sounds become fixed in the child's subconscious. When learning English, he first absorbs consonants, and then syllables. Next, words are fixed; however, the child can't readily comprehend the meaning of the words he is hearing. The 'inner teacher'; within the child helps him to later grasp the meaning and grammar of the English language. We must remember that language acquisition has a natural timetable which can't be accelerated by an adult's prodding or interference.

Montessori was quick to illustrate that if an adult goes to a foreign country and attempts to learn a foreign language, he will find it most difficult. This is because the adult no longer possesses the sensitive period of language. So, what are some of the things you can do to help your child fully benefit from the sensitive period of language? Read Montessori's **The Absorbent Mind** and **The Secret of Childhood** books. These books will provide you with a solid foundation of what you need to know.

Montessori at Home: A Complete Guide to Teaching Your Preschooler at Home Using the Montessori Method and Modern Montessori at Home: A Creative Teaching Guide for Parents of Children Six through Nine Years of Age will also be helpful as these books provide complete language lesson planning information and provide instruction on how to set up the *prepared environment*.

**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 6*



