

Montessori's Methods of Aesthetic Education: Two Examples

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This paper aims to explore the Montessori (Maria Montessori, 1870-1952) aesthetic education method. It mainly adopts Hermeneutic Research Approach. While analyzing the relevant literature, this study is largely based on the practical field experience. Montessori's aesthetic education methods have been characterized with special features of "preparing the environment" and "teaching aids design." This research further presents two practical cases to explain their overall practices specifically. Though Montessori's method has been often criticized by scholars, such as "Is the environment dangerous?" "Do teaching aids stifle imagination?" "Is the method outdated?" "Can the method also be applied to non-Montessori kindergartens?" they are all discussed, upon their controversy, with analyses leading to a final conclusion.

Keywords: aesthetic education, teaching aids design, preparing the environment, Montessori

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