

The Work of Our Children

One of Maria Montessori's greatest contributions to our understanding of young children was her recognition of the nature and value of their work. While she famously claimed play to be the work of childhood, what she meant was that through their play and other efforts they are responsible for creating the next generation. What we all hope for this next generation is that they are just a bit better, more capable, more creative, more at ease, and primarily at least somewhat more peaceful than we.

A key observation she made about children's preferred play was that if given the option, they prefer reality and true work and effort to imaginary past times. This is evident every day at Pisgah Collective. While our children's imaginations are vivid and busy, they are mimicking what they have gleaned in their short time on Earth. They want to build and create, observe and discover, as well as do the things they see their parents, teachers, and other beloved adults doing.

This desire for reality can make facilitating the work of early childhood a challenge! But as much as possible, it is our job to provide a curated environment in which they can work unimpeded and spontaneously.

We achieve this by providing not only a beautiful outdoor space, but also a plethora of natural wonders as well as tools and materials that help them to make sense of the world around them and their connection to it.



"A child who has become master of his acts through long and repeated exercises, and who has been encouraged by the pleasant and interesting activities in which he has been engaged, is a child filled with health and joy and remarkable for his calmness and discipline."

"The child seeks independence by means of work; an independence of body and mind."

"We must clearly understand that when we give the child freedom and independence, we are giving freedom to a worker already braced for action, who cannot live without working and being active."

A primary driver of young children is their desire to do things for themselves. While they may sometimes revert to a preference to have things done for them, they are naturally inclined to activity and it is the adults job to provide plenty of time and and space

for repetitive practice to encourage this independence. The more success they experience, the stronger their desire for more capability and freedom.

Our teachers at Pisgah Collective work hard everyday to understand each individual in our care and to encourage them each on their personal journeys. We achieve this by striking a balance between allowing their spontaneous freedoms and redirecting them towards activities that will aid in their development. These efforts combine to increase our students' thirst for independence.

"Our care of the child should be governed, not by the desire to make him learn things, but by the endeavor always to keep burning within him that light which is called intelligence."

"Education is a natural process spontaneously carried out by the human individual, and is acquired not by listening to words but by experiences upon the environment."

"To stimulate life, leaving it free, however, to unfold itself--that is the first duty of the educator."

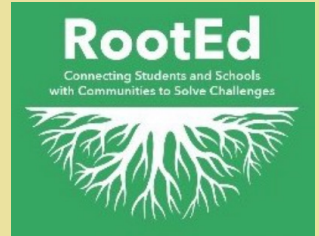


Exciting Spring Collaboration and Launch Event!

We are excited to announce that three of our teachers were selected to collaborate for some exciting projects with RootEd. **RootEd** is a regional program that works with schools, districts, universities, and other partners to develop teachers' and leaders' abilities to connect students with communities to solve real challenges.

Save the Date: Saturday, March 19 at the barn! Time TBD
We will be officially launching the projects and asking for parent volunteers during a family friendly service day at the barn!

Over the course of this semester, there will be various opportunities for parents to get involved in this collaboration. Please be on the lookout for communication about this. Also, we already know we will be gathering broken pottery, dishes, etc as well as treasures for the students to help make stepping stones. The week leading up to the launch event we will begin collecting these items so be thinking about what you may have to contribute!



Free Parenting Class The Incredible Years Parenting Program

For Parents and Caregivers of
Preschool Children (3 to 6
Years)

- Free Meal Provided
- Free Childcare Provided
- All Materials Included
- Registration Required

Details:

14 Week Class,
Beginning on January 24.
Mondays 9:15 to 11:45, at One
Church on Rosman Highway in
Brevard

To register, email
info@thefamilyplacenc.com



For Parents and Caregivers of
Preschoolers Who Are
Looking to:

- Build a positive relationship with your child
- Connect with other parents
- Gain more tools for your parenting toolbox
- Learn to set and enforce limits
- Help your child to solve problems and express feelings appropriately



Important Dates

- **CLOSED: President's Day**
February 21
- **RootED Launch Event:**
March 19 @ the barn!
- **CLOSED: Spring Break**
April 11-18
- **Save the Date: Field Day**
Saturday, April 23
- **Last Day of Spring Semester**
Afternoons: Thursday, May 12
Mornings: Friday, May 20



contact Ms. Emma
emma@emmabwrs.com

CHECK THIS OUT!

PATCHES BUTTONS HEMMING DARNING

Spring Payment #2 Due:
Wednesday, Feb 9

Spring Payment #3 Due:
Wednesday, March 9

(morning sprouts & afternoon seedlings)