

Responsibilities for Three-Year-Olds: In the Classroom and at Home

Our All Year Montessori teacher gives the following list of tasks that children in the Pre-K / Kindergarten class learn to be responsible for. She asks the parents of her students to incorporate some or all of these at home:

Care of the Environment (Classroom & Home)

- Making own bed at home
- Feeding and watering animals
- Dusting
- Washing a window
- Washing tables
- Doing own dishes
- Putting away belongings (i.e. coat, hat, scarf, boots)
- Washing cloths
- Vacuuming
- Sweeping/Swiffering rooms in your home
- Polishing shoes
- Watering plants
- Washing plant leaves
- Repotting plants
- Ironing
- Filling and emptying the dishwasher
- Baking (measuring, stirring, cutting, putting in and out of oven)
- Preparing breakfast
- Cutting fruit
- Setting up/clearing own place at a table (or for entire family)
- Serving others and self food
- Using a knife, fork, and spoon properly
- Cutting food first with a knife
- Shoveling snow and raking leaves
- Feeding birds outside
- Weeding garden
- Watering garden
- Polishing brass, silver, and wood items
- Laundry (Gathering/Washing/Drying/Folding/Putting away)
- Cleaning up spills (including broken glass)
- Cutting paper towels
- Cleaning animal cages
- Taking out Garbage/Bringing in cans

Care of Self

- Dressing without help
- Changing when dirty (choosing own clothes)
- Washing face
- Washing hands
- Zipping coats
- Putting on own shoes and fastening them
- Going to the bathroom on own accord
- Wiping self in bathroom and changing when needed
- Applying lotion (suntan lotion in summer)
- Combing hair
- Brushing teeth
- Blowing own nose
- Taking off and putting away coats and bags
- Prepares own snack when hungry
- Choosing own work or activity (directing own day)
- Using a napkin at meal times
- Eating entrée before dessert
- Eating proper sized portions

Care of others

- Teaching/mentoring younger children
- Zipping/buttoning coats, tying shoes
- Serving others at meal times
- Greeting a stranger
- Offering refreshments
- Offering help when needed
- Offering comfort to others
- Putting another's needs before their own
- Using words to solve problems (not hands)
- Facilitating an activity
- Being a model