

Montessori in the Home

Tips for Toddlers

Montessori education doesn't have to end at the pick-up line. An article by K.T. Korngold in *Tomorrow's Child* highlights some very sensible ways to foster a child's developing sense of independence.

Ms. Korngold had the good fortune to be designing a home while her child was young, so she and her husband incorporated ideas that aren't an option for most parents, like lower banisters on the stairway and child-accessible light switches and towel racks.

Other ideas she writes about are easier to adopt. Artwork in the child's bedroom is hung at *her* eye-level, not her parents'. Her child has a low rod in her closet so she can organize and choose her own clothes. The lowest shelves in the family area are designated for her toys, with baskets instead of drawers. Her daughter has a small, child-sized table in the kitchen, and they utilize a learning tower so she can help with food preparation and dish washing.

In the foyer, a mirror at the child's eye level and a low hook for a coat are easy changes to make. Doing more on her own to get ready in the morning, and hanging her own coat as she comes home will add to her growing sense of accomplishment.

Here is another [article](#) by Ms. Korngold, focusing on infancy. Happy reading!