

Montessori Summer Project Guide

Cultivating Confidence, Curiosity, and Connection

Summer is the perfect time to invite your child into deeper exploration — not through worksheets, but through meaningful real-world experiences.

Here are Montessori-aligned ideas to help you and your child create a summer full of learning, wonder, and connection.

Everyday Projects That Spark Deep Learning

1. Bake Together

- **Practical Life Skills:** Measuring, following recipes, kitchen safety.
- **Extend It:** Research the history of an ingredient. Where do apples grow best? How does yeast work in bread?
- **Academic Areas:** Math, science, history, culture, fine motor skills.

2. Plan and Document a Trip

- **Practical Life Skills:** Budgeting, route planning, organizing materials.
- **Extend It:** Research the geography, history, and culture of your destination. Write a travel guide or blog post when you return.
- **Academic Areas:** Geography, history, writing, critical thinking.

3. Start a Garden

- **Practical Life Skills:** Planning, planting, caring for living things.

- **Extend It:** Study climate zones, explore native vs. non-native plants, build a simple irrigation system.
- **Academic Areas:** Biology, environmental science, engineering, art.

4. Explore Nature Locally

- **Practical Life Skills:** Observation, documentation, environmental stewardship.
- **Extend It:** Create a nature journal, track animal sightings, map local trails.
- **Academic Areas:** Ecology, writing, art, map reading.

5. Create a Summer Book Project

- **Practical Life Skills:** Reading, analysis, time management.
- **Extend It:** Choose a book together and extend it by creating dioramas, timelines, or dramatic reenactments.
- **Academic Areas:** Literature, history, art, public speaking.

6. Build Something Together

- **Practical Life Skills:** Measuring, using tools, following a plan.
- **Extend It:** Design and build a birdhouse, simple furniture, or backyard games.
- **Academic Areas:** Math, geometry, engineering, craftsmanship.

7. Document a Family Recipe

- **Practical Life Skills:** Writing, organizing, interviewing.
- **Extend It:** Interview family members about their favorite recipes and create a family cookbook.
- **Academic Areas:** Writing, history, culture, graphic design.

Tips for a Montessori-Aligned Summer

- **Prepare the Environment:** Make materials accessible (books, notebooks, art supplies, cooking tools).
- **Offer Real Choices:** Let your child help choose projects based on genuine interests.
- **Work Side-by-Side:** Share enthusiasm and model curiosity.
- **Follow Their Questions:** Let natural inquiry guide deeper exploration.
- **Balance Freedom with Structure:** Help set goals and timelines without rigid control.

Remember:

A Montessori summer isn't about replicating school at home —

It's about living as curious, capable humans in a world full of discovery.