

THE MONTESSORI POTENTIAL
How to Foster Independence, Respect, and Joy in Every Child,

by Paula Lillard Preschlack

SUGGESTED BOOK DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR MONTESSORI ALUMNI

1. Of the eight traits described in the book, (p. 11-13) do you have an example of where you or a classmate uses that trait in life, now?
2. The author makes the metaphor of the Montessori curriculum being like a buffet table on page 84. Does this seem true to you? What other metaphors have you thought of over the years to describe your Montessori experiences?
3. On pages 78-81, the author talks about the balance of freedoms and responsibilities as vital to helping children develop independence. What do you remember from your time in school, and what do you think about that balance? Do you think it prepared you for the real world? If so, how?
4. If you think Montessori education was the best fit for *you*, tell us why. Is there something about the way you learn that specifically matches Montessori's approach?
5. In Chapter Three, the author tells anecdotes of children in their classrooms. What do you remember of your time in the earliest years? What is a favorite or most clear memory?
6. Did your parents embrace the Montessori approach at home? How did (or didn't) they?
7. Would you send your own children to a Montessori school or encourage others to send their children to one? Why?
8. What do you think is the most important thing to tell people about Montessori's approach? Did the author address that in the book? (If not, please tell me- I'd love to hear what else you think!!)

Thank you for engaging with these questions and for reading this book! I hope you found it illuminating and that it either described your experience satisfactorily or inspired you to write your own accounts. Most of all, I hope that you will share THE MONTESSORI POTENTIAL with others!