

# MONTESSORI HOME SET UP

TAKE CHARGE OF THE CHAOS!



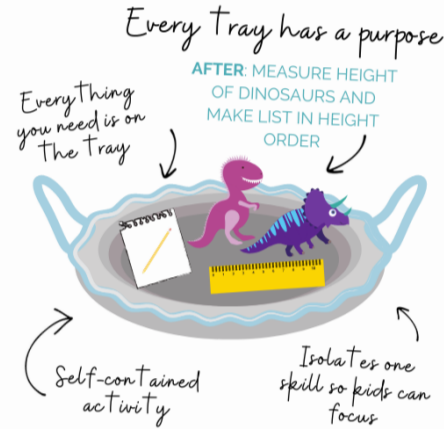
- 1 **Group like items together**  
Start by grouping like items in baskets. The goal is to have every toy grouped & stored.
- 2 **Decide purpose**  
Decide what purpose each basket or tray will have. (See page 2 for more tips on how to make activities more purposeful!)
- 3 **Select baskets for rotation**  
Pick 5-10 baskets or trays to put in rotation in a low shelf in your home. Limiting the choices makes activities more special.
- 4 **Store toys away**  
Commandeer a storage area away from little hands where you can stage all the baskets and trays until they're ready to be put into rotation. Change every week or so.
- 5 **Re-set every night**  
Keep the setup prepared and ready for your child by "re-setting" it every evening.

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# MONTESSORI ACTIVITY PRINCIPLES

GIVE YOUR TOYS A PURPOSE!

**BEFORE:** THIS BIN OF LIKE ITEMS CAN BE TURNED INTO A MEANINGFUL ACTIVITY



- 1 **Like items have a purpose**  
That collection of dinosaurs can be used for all kinds of important work: lining them up, grouping by color, and pretend play. The point is that they are accessible to play with because they are together.
- 2 **Put sets together**  
The cars should be stored with the racetrack set. The doll clothes should be put in a basket next to the dolls they fit. Present the toys in a way that allows for maximum use.
- 3 **Find a new purpose**  
Placing dinosaurs on a tray with a ruler, pad, and pencil gives them new purpose. Now, the activity is about measuring for height and putting in order. Find a new purpose for small groups of toys!
- 4 **Narrow the focus**  
Each activity or "work" only should deal with one step in the process of mastering a skill. This gives kids lots of focus and practice.

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