



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION .....	1
MARIA MONTESSORI AND THE MONTESSORI METHOD .....	3
Introduction .....	3
Early Years .....	4
Medical School .....	6
Early Work with Children .....	7
The Casa dei Bambini .....	13
The Development of the Method .....	18
Montessori Training and Schools .....	23
Last Years .....	26
GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT .....	28
Introduction .....	28
Planes of Development .....	30
Research in Growth and Development .....	40
Growth and Development, 6–12 .....	48
Physical Growth and Development .....	48
Cognitive Development .....	62
Social Growth and Development .....	78
SUMMARY OF MONTESSORI TERMS .....	100
Terms That Have Appeared Previously .....	100
Other Terms .....	106
PUTTING THE MONTESSORI METHOD INTO PRACTICE .....	107
Introduction .....	107

<b>The Designed Environment</b> .....	108
Introduction .....	108
Classroom Set-up .....	108
Use of All Available Space .....	120
Materials .....	136
Range of Materials .....	143
The Outdoor Area .....	152
<b>Presentations and Activities</b> .....	153
Introduction .....	153
Basic Elements .....	153
Issues at the Elementary Level .....	160
<b>The Start of the School Year</b> .....	180
Introduction .....	180
Providing Entry Items .....	181
Planning the First Day .....	182
Maintaining a Positive Tone .....	191
Establishing Rules and Routines .....	192
Focusing on Normalization .....	195
Introducing the Elementary Curriculum .....	207
Communicating with Parents in the First Weeks .....	210
<b>Typical Day</b> .....	211
Introduction .....	211
Greeting and Morning Work Period .....	212
Group Time .....	216
Lunch, Clean-up, Storytime, Free Play .....	218
Individual Reading .....	218
Afternoon Work Period .....	219
Group Exercise .....	219
Clean-Up and Closing .....	220
<b>The Role of the Teacher</b> .....	222
Introduction .....	222
Guide .....	222
Model .....	229
Observer .....	239
Record-Keeper .....	241
Parent Ally .....	253
Professional .....	261
<b>RESOURCES</b> .....	265