

# *Welcome to montessorispeaks.com*

The main research question asked: “What insights on implementing the Montessori educational concept can experienced practitioners offer to Montessori teachers?”

Excerpts cover the research findings and include:

1. The Essence of Montessori
2. Insights for Prospective and New Montessori Teachers
3. Insights for Montessori Teacher Educators
4. Insights for Montessori School Administrators

The findings come from six dialogues held with 20 experienced Montessori educators (considered as elders and coresearchers) that were conducted over a period of five months (July 2016 to December 2016). The small group dialogues were held in five different locations—four in the continental United States, one in the Czech Republic.

Participants are named in Chapter 4 of the research.\* They represent a collective 770 years of experience in Montessori, have worked with Montessori teachers in 30 countries, have experience in Montessori classrooms that cover all levels of instruction, and hold credentials or diplomas from either AMS (14) and/or AMI (9). Three of the 20 contributors are non-native English speakers. Their input adds to the literature and was solicited specifically to inform the Montessori community.

Fifteen of the 20 coresearchers read and affirmed the analysis and findings.

The elder’s voices are cited directly but not attributed to individuals; elders understood from the beginning that their thoughts would be represented as a collective. The intent was not to distill nor ascribe more value to any particular insight. It seemed fitting to include what had been spoken in its essence because it could not be known what thoughts might become meaningful to the reader.

Last, this research intended to deepen understanding of effective teachers and does not profess to cover all aspects that might define and support effective Montessori teachers nor cover completely what the essence of Montessori involves.

\*For the limits of selecting only 20 participants, see **Number and accommodation**, p. 62 of the research.

*Finally, I would like to acknowledge  
Dorothy Alexander,  
Harry Cole (Bauhaus Montessori, New Orleans)  
Jennifer Waldrop  
whose efforts made these booklets and this website a reality.*

On behalf of all the researchers, thank you for visiting this site,  
*Ann*

Note: If you have access to a large printer, you may be able to print the booklets according to the needed settings. Otherwise, you will need to take the pdf’s to a printing service if you want print copies.