WHAT IS VOCABULARY?

Vocabulary refers to many terminologies and the different types of expression of words. It is the knowledge of words in a language.

Enrichment of vocabulary means we give the child a bank of words that they can use in their daily lives, and express themselves.

Early on in life, the child realizes that everything around him has a name, and they constantly keep asking WHAT this is. They are very inquisitive and they ask repeatedly for confirmation. This is how they familiarize with the things around them in the environment. Names of things and objects are very essential for children and Montessori believed that spoken language is a construction of the inner self and they absorb everything around them and build the language within them. They take in the language and everything around them and suddenly they start talking.( an explosion of words) Children start understanding language from a very young age, and if we start using rich language and vocabulary, the child takes it in. It’s important that we cultivate the ability to know the precise terms for the things around us and use it in our daily conversations; the children absorb everything in totality. Child needs to classify the vocabulary around them for easy retrieval. It must be active or its settles down, that is they might forget it.

The child who comes into the CASA at 2 ½, has already seen things and experienced a lot and it’s important for him to know the names of the things around him precisely. It’s an urgent need for the child to build his vocabulary, to enrich it. Sometimes we think that the child cannot understand complex words and we tend to simplify them, but we need to remember that for the absorbent mind, nothing is difficult. A word that human beings use is so powerful. It is an abstract knowledge and the child enters into the world of vocabulary since birth. Sometimes a thing is not in front of us and still we visualize it and associate it to the object. That’s how powerful the absorbent mind is.