

Independent Work Cycle — Choosing Three Works

Base Sheet

Activity Sheet

The child selects, completes, and returns three works from the shelf independently, demonstrating the full Montessori work cycle. This lesson marks the culmination of years of practical life development, showing the child's ability to self-direct their learning.

You Need:

- Prepared Montessori shelves with at least 8-10 available works
- Work mats
- Timer (optional, for parent observation)
- Observation notebook

Steps:

1. Sit with the child near the work shelves.
2. 'Today you are going to choose THREE works from the shelf all by yourself. You will get each one, do the work, and put it back before choosing the next.'
3. Review the expectations: carry the tray carefully, work at a table or mat, complete the full cycle, return materials exactly as found.
4. Step back and observe. Do not intervene unless safety is a concern.
5. Note which works the child chooses, how long they concentrate, and how they handle transitions between works.
6. After all three works are complete, have a brief reflection: 'Tell me about the works you chose today.'

Work Space:



Montessori Homeschool • Print on US Letter (8.5 x 11") • Activity sheet — print on standard paper