

PreK at MMCS vs. Wild Hearts

Criteria	PreK @ MMCS	Wild Hearts
Classroom Age Groupings Assessment of Progress Time limits for completed work Discipline	Three year age range (3-6 yrs) Teacher is continually Assessing students/observation Child works until chosen project is complete Method and environment encourage self discipline	Same
Who does the teaching	Trained Montessori Guides + students are encouraged to teach, collaborate and help one another	Experienced Guides Trained through School-Specific TEP + students are encouraged to teach, collaborate and help one another
Learning Materials	Full set of authentic Montessori Materials, Wide Variety + Practical Life Opportunities	Natural Materials, Re-purposed Materials, Gross Motor Structures, Open-Ended Materials, Loose Parts, Outdoor Practical Life Opportunities
Classroom Set-up	Large Indoor Space Meticulously Prepared Tables and Floor Space/Mats	100% Outdoors Prepared Natural Environment Mud-Kitchen, Garden, ++Gross Motor
Classroom schedule	Three hour block of uninterrupted work time + 1hr outdoor recess (snack when hungry)	4 hours child-led nature exploration (snack when hungry)
Subject Integration/ Separation	Integration of all subject areas during work time	Same + unstructured time for free play, imaginary play + gross motor challenges
How learning takes place	1:1 and small group lessons child-led practice & mastery self-paced, hands-on	Same + Emphasis on Freedom of Movement & Nature Appreciation
Supplemental Opportunities	gardening, animal care	Yoga (1x/wk) Gardening Animal Care
Location	255 S May St, Southern Pines	895 Linden Rd, Pinehurst
Class Size + Ratio	15-30 students: 2 adults	12-15 students: 2 adults
Educational Philosophy	Montessori	Blended: Montessori + Forest School + Reggio