ABSTRACTION: BUILDING ON A SOLID FOUNTATION

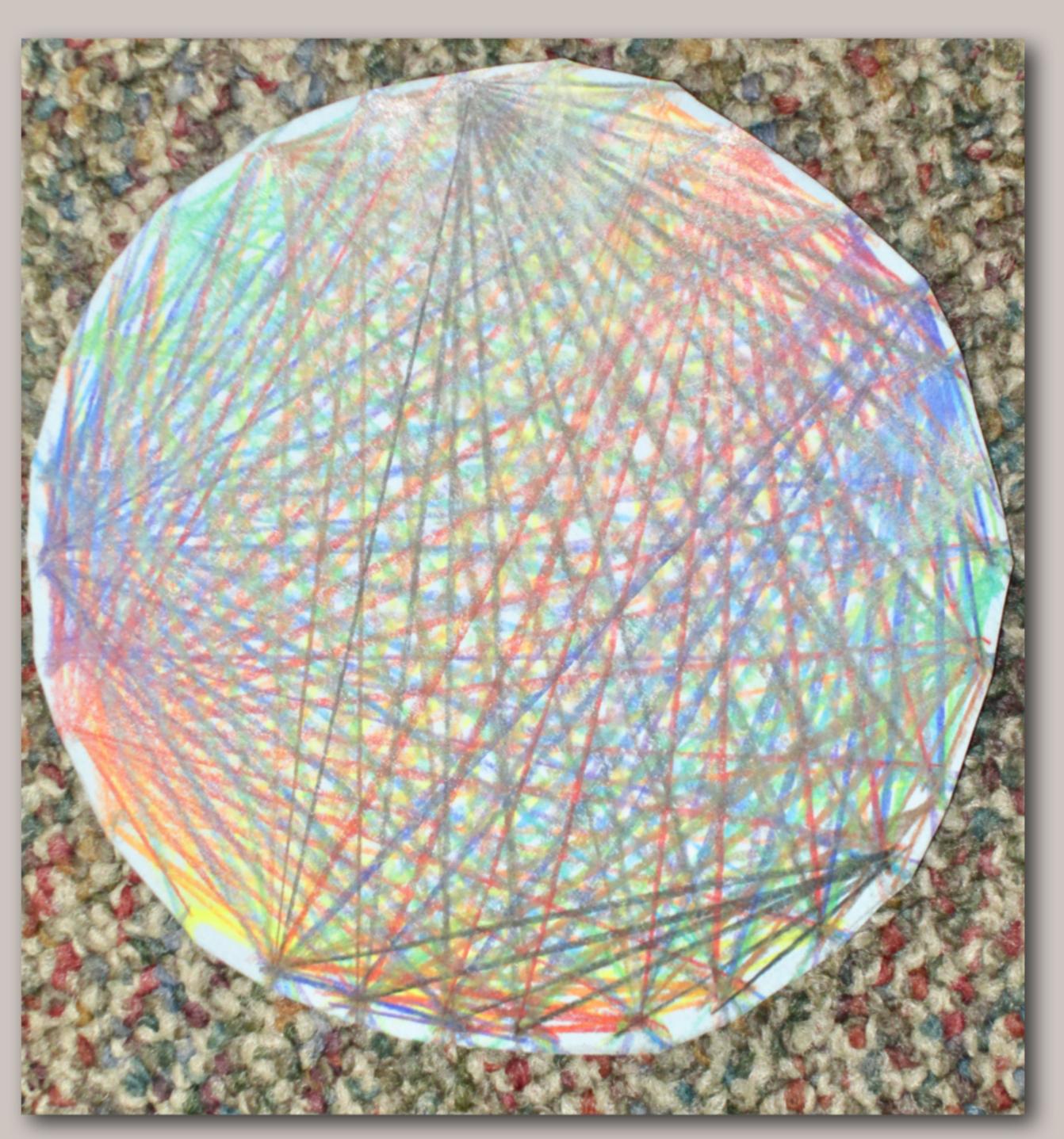
HUMAN TENDENCIES OUR GUIDES IN THE CLASSROOM

- Tendency to Explore
- Tendency to Orient
- Tendency to Order
- Tendency to Abstract
- Tendency to Communicate
- Tendency to Work
- Tendency to Self-Perfect
- Tendency to Repeat
- Tendency toward a Spiritual Life



IMAGINATION BUILDING A STRONG BASE

- Imagination depends on sensorial experience
- Two types of imagination
- Three possibilities of imagination



IMAGINATION BUILDING A STRONG BASE

- Imagination depends on sensorial experience
 - imagination is not fabrication
 - imagination relies on previous, real experiences



IMAGINATION CAN HAVE ONLY A SENSORY BASIS. THE SENSORY EDUCATION WHICH PREPARES FOR THE ACCURATE PERCEPTION OF ALL THE DIFFERENTIAL DETAILS IN THE QUALITIES OF THINGS, IS THEREFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE OBSERVATION OF THINGS AND OF PHENOMENA WHICH PRESENT THEMSELVES TO OUR SENSES; AND WITH THIS IT HELPS US TO COLLECT FROM THE EXTERNAL WORLD THE MATERIAL FOR THE IMAGINATION.

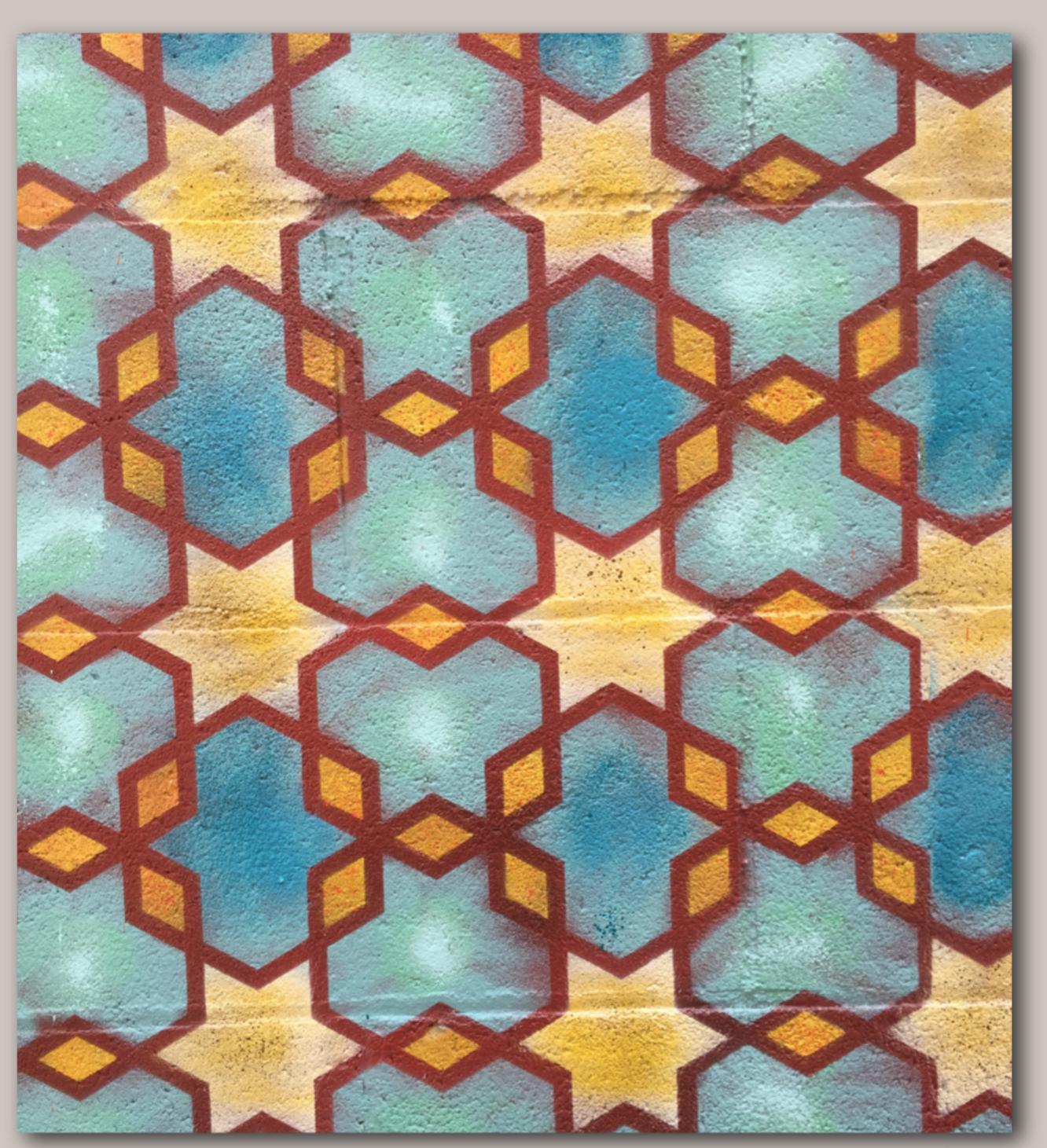
— Maria Montessori, The Advanced Montessori Method I

THE CONTENT OF OUR MIND IS MADE UP OF WHAT WE TAKE MATERIALLY FROM THE SURROUNDINGS BY MEANS OF SENSATIONS, AND OF WHAT WE MAY CONSTRUCT BY MEANS OF IMAGINATION. THE MATERIAL UNIVERSE WE OBTAIN FROM WITHOUT CAN BE CONSIDERED THE NOURISHMENT FOR THE IMAGINATION.

— Maria Montessori, 1913 Rome Lectures

THE MATHEMATICAL MIND LAYING THE FOUNDATION

- Experiences build the intelligence
- Works in tandem with imagination
- Two areas of foundational work in Casa dei Bambini



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THE MATHEMATICAL MIND PRACTICAL LIFE

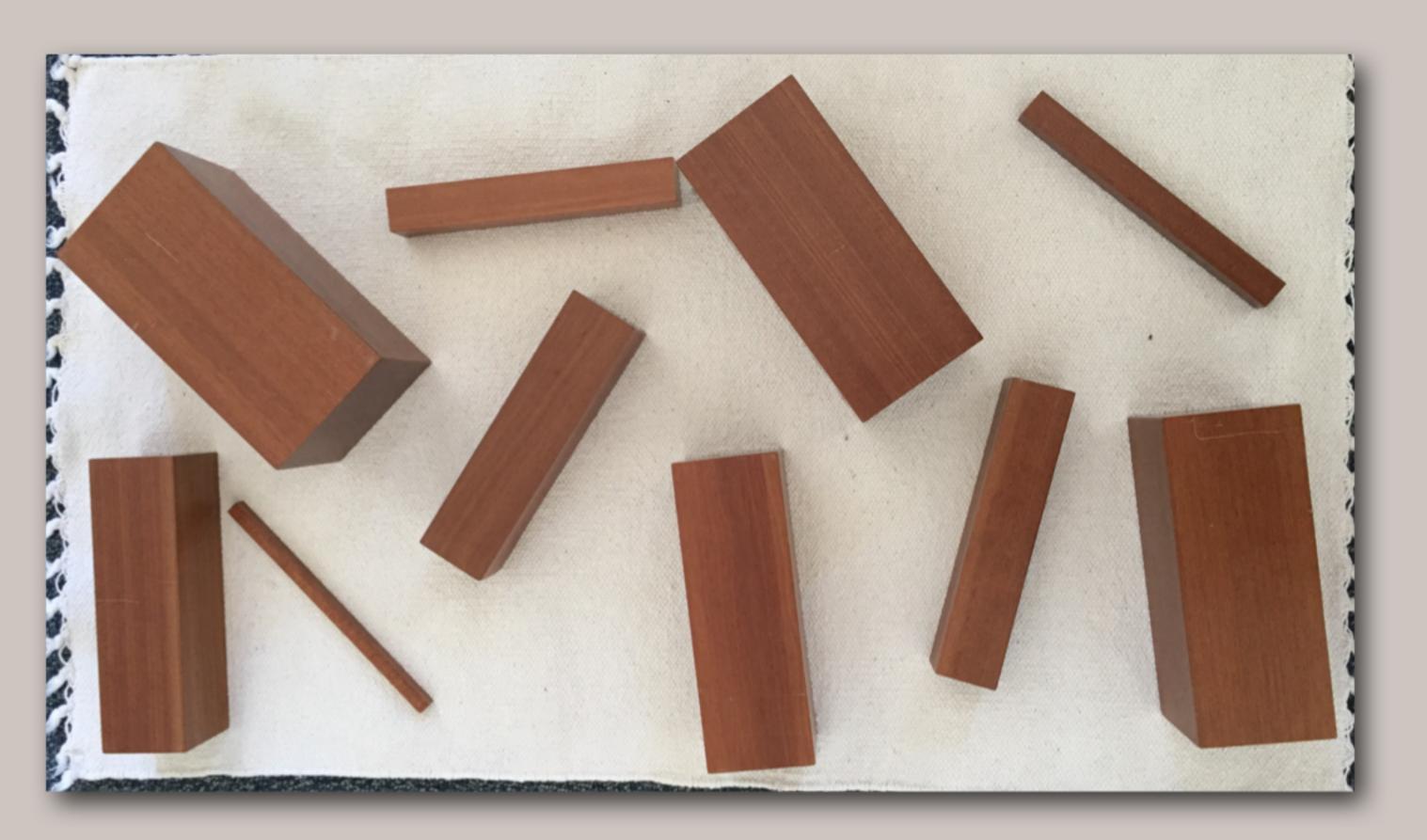
- Aids the ability to think in an orderly and logical fashion.
- Develops coordination and attention.
- Establishes order and sequence.





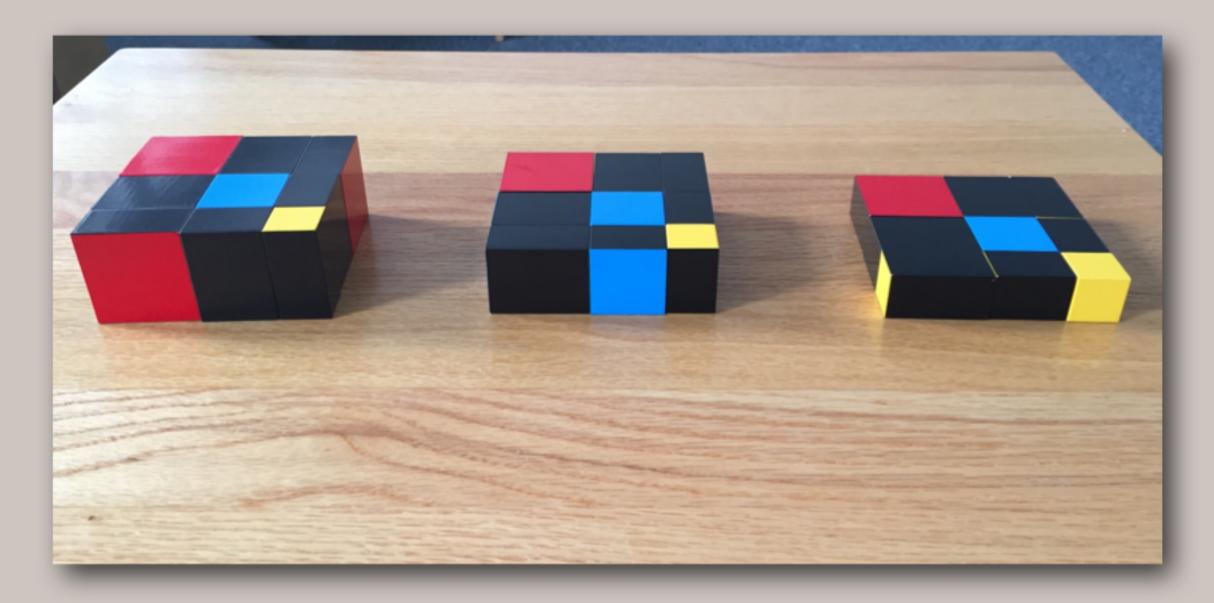


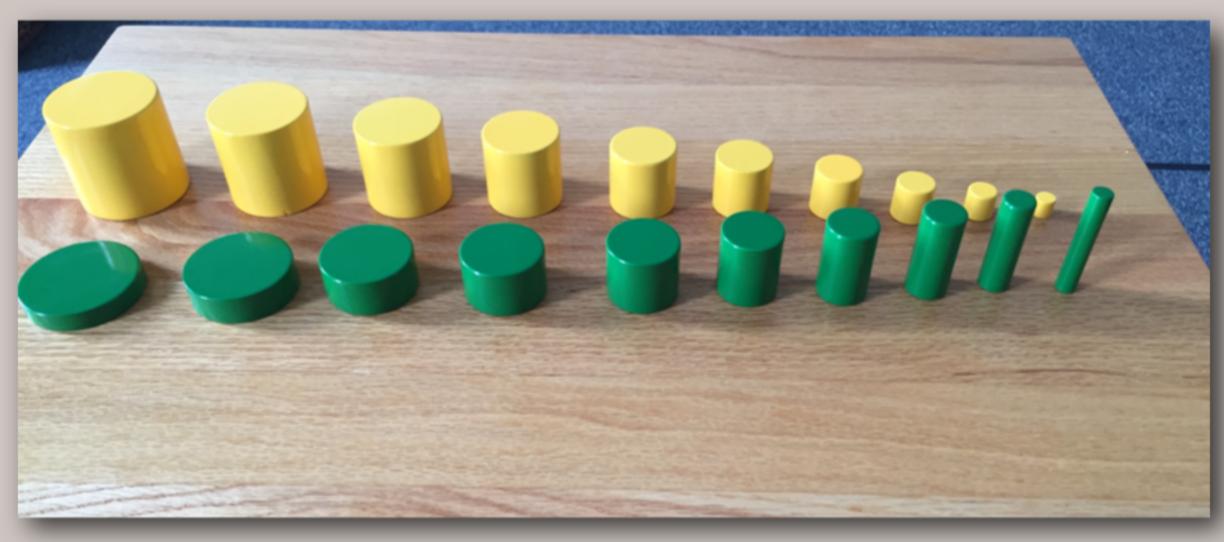


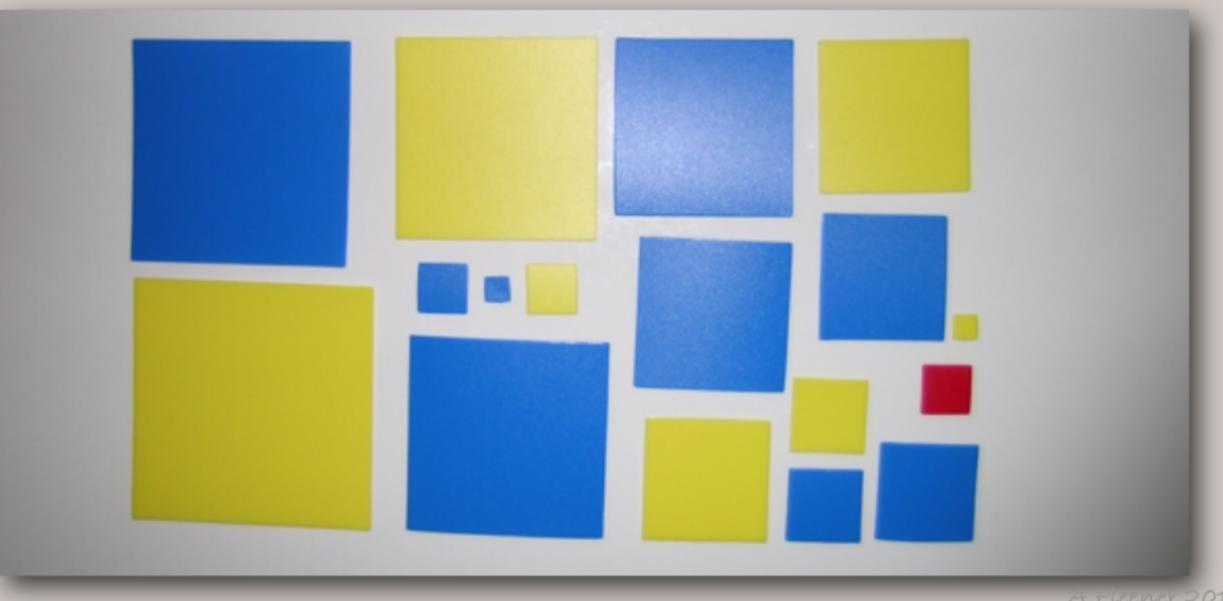






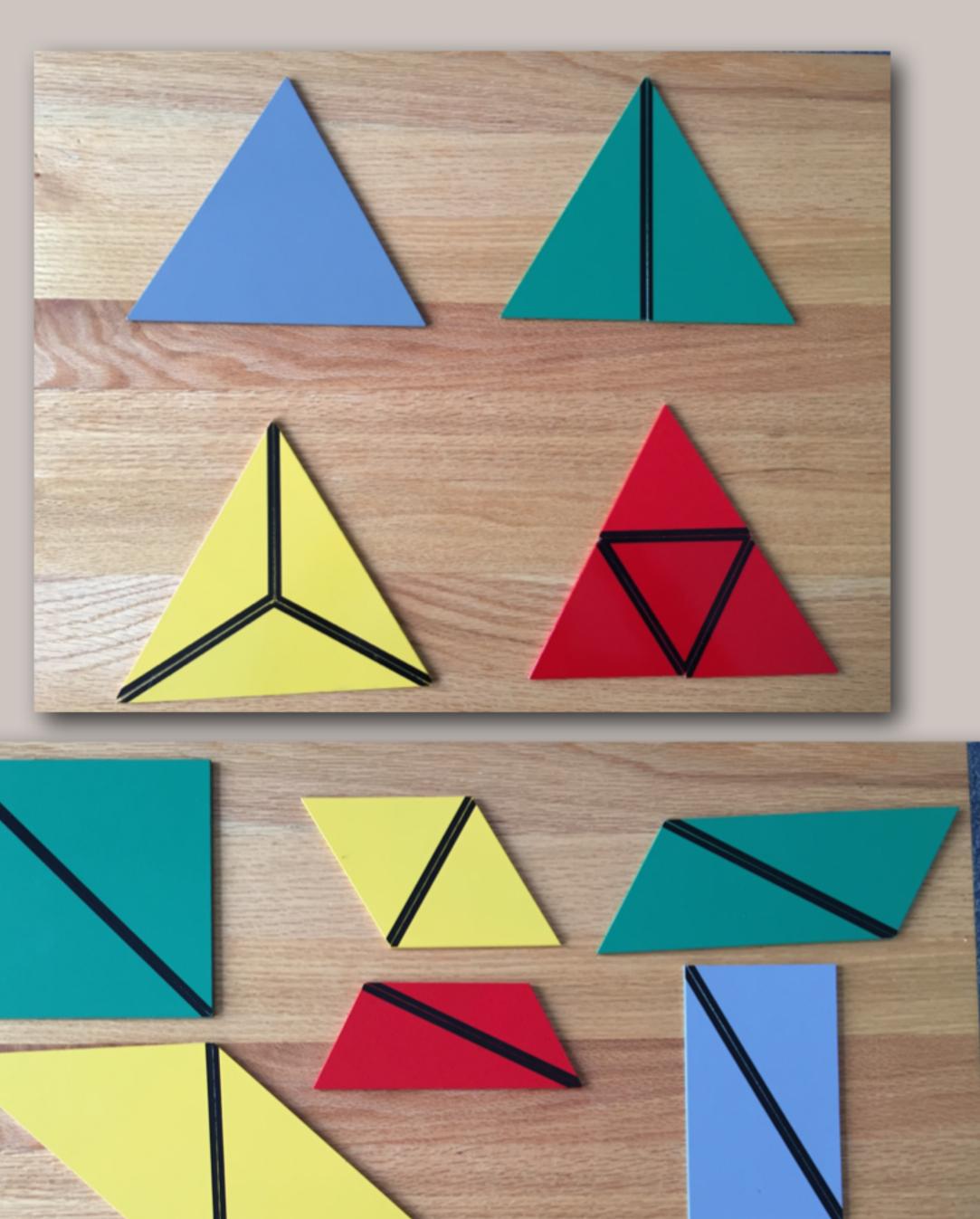




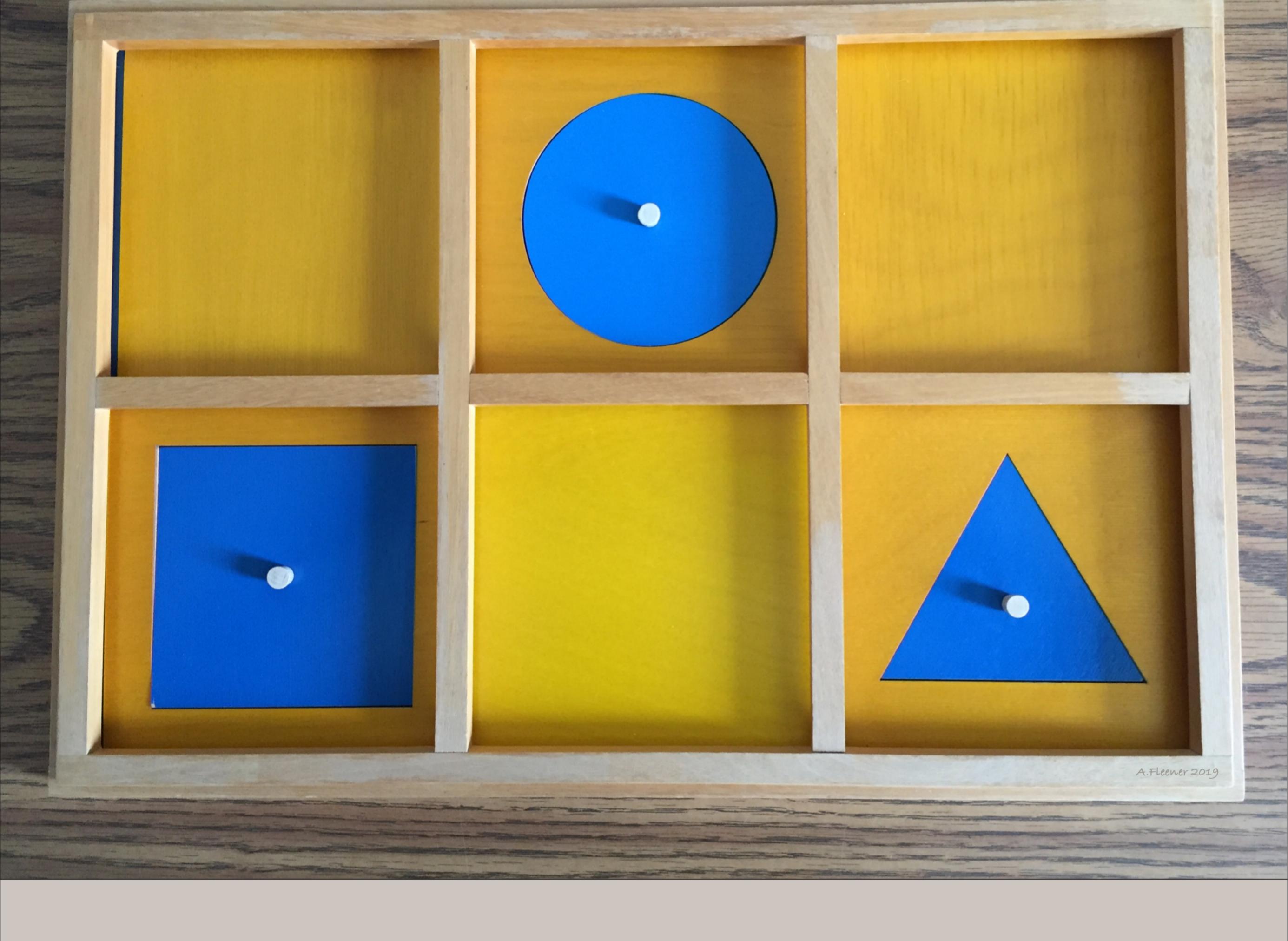


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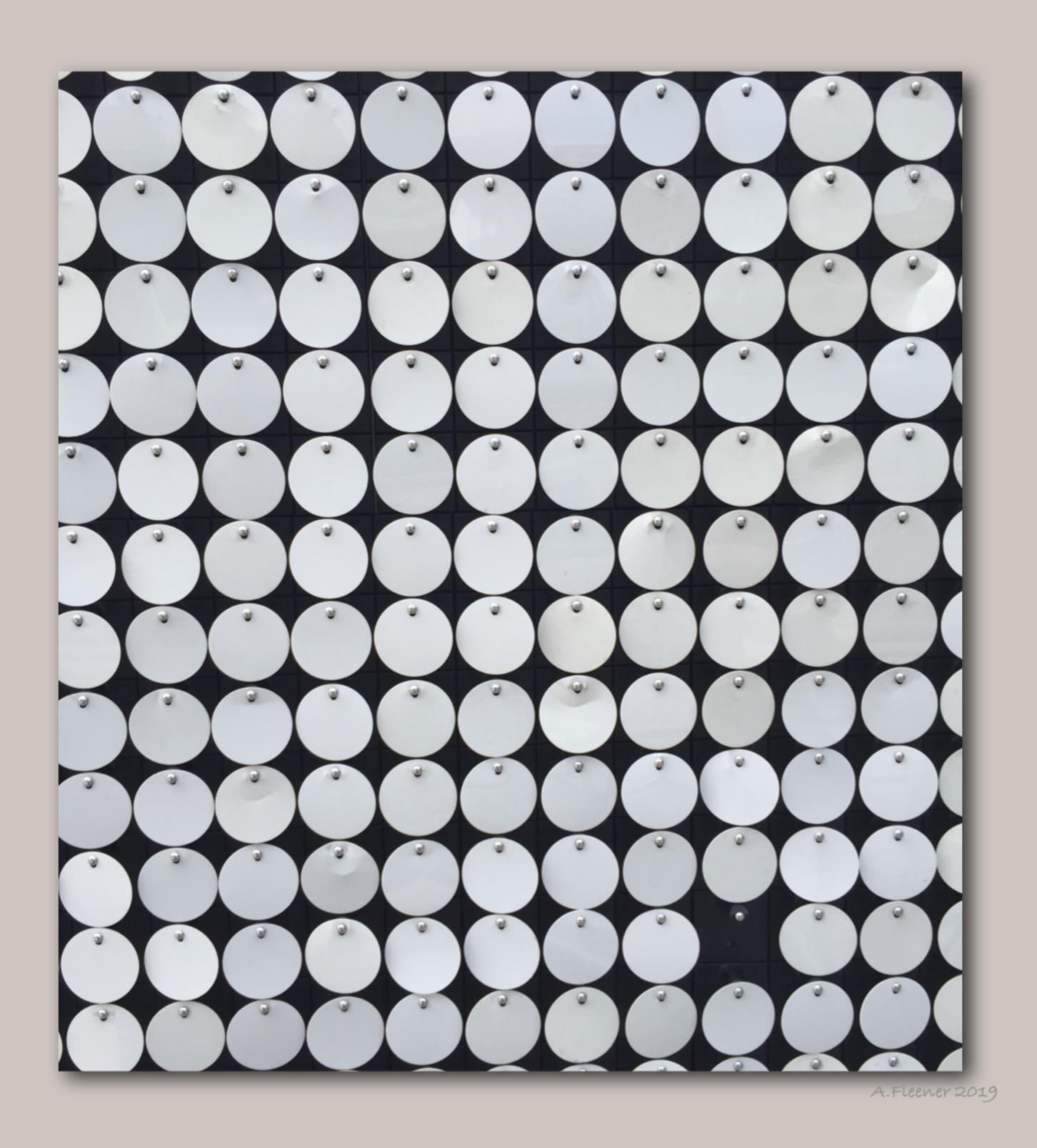






BUILDING ON THE FOUNDATION

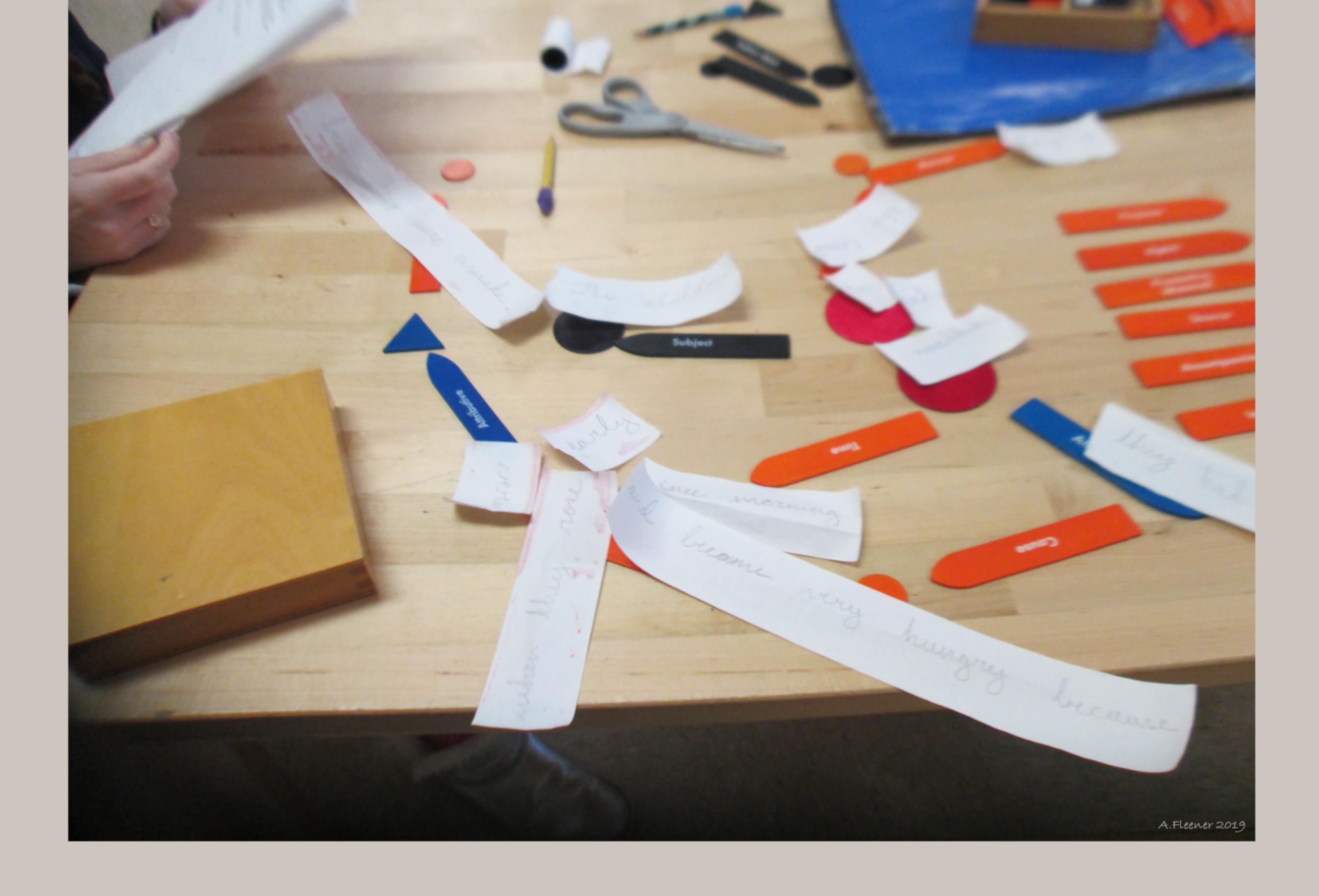
- Second Plane of
 Development (ages 6-12)
- Imaginative explorer
- Cosmic Education



JUST IMAGINE A CHILD OF SEVEN YEARS ENTERING THE
[ELEMENTARY] SCHOOL KNOWING HOW TO WRITE AND HOW TO
READ, HOW TO DO WITH ACCURACY FOUR FUNDAMENTAL
OPERATIONS IN ARITHMETIC, KNOWING THE RUDIMENTS OF THE
NATURAL SCIENCES AND ALSO OF GEOGRAPHY...... WHEN SUCH A
CHILD ENTERS THE [ELEMENTARY] SCHOOL, IF THE NECESSARY
ENVIRONMENTS AND FACILITIES ARE GIVEN TO HIM, HE WILL
CARRY INTO THAT SCHOOL THE JOY OF ACTIVITY, THE ENTHUSIASM
AND HUNGER FOR KNOWLEDGE WHICH HE DISPLAYED IN THE
PREVIOUS YEARS.

— Maria Montessori, What You Should Know About Your Child





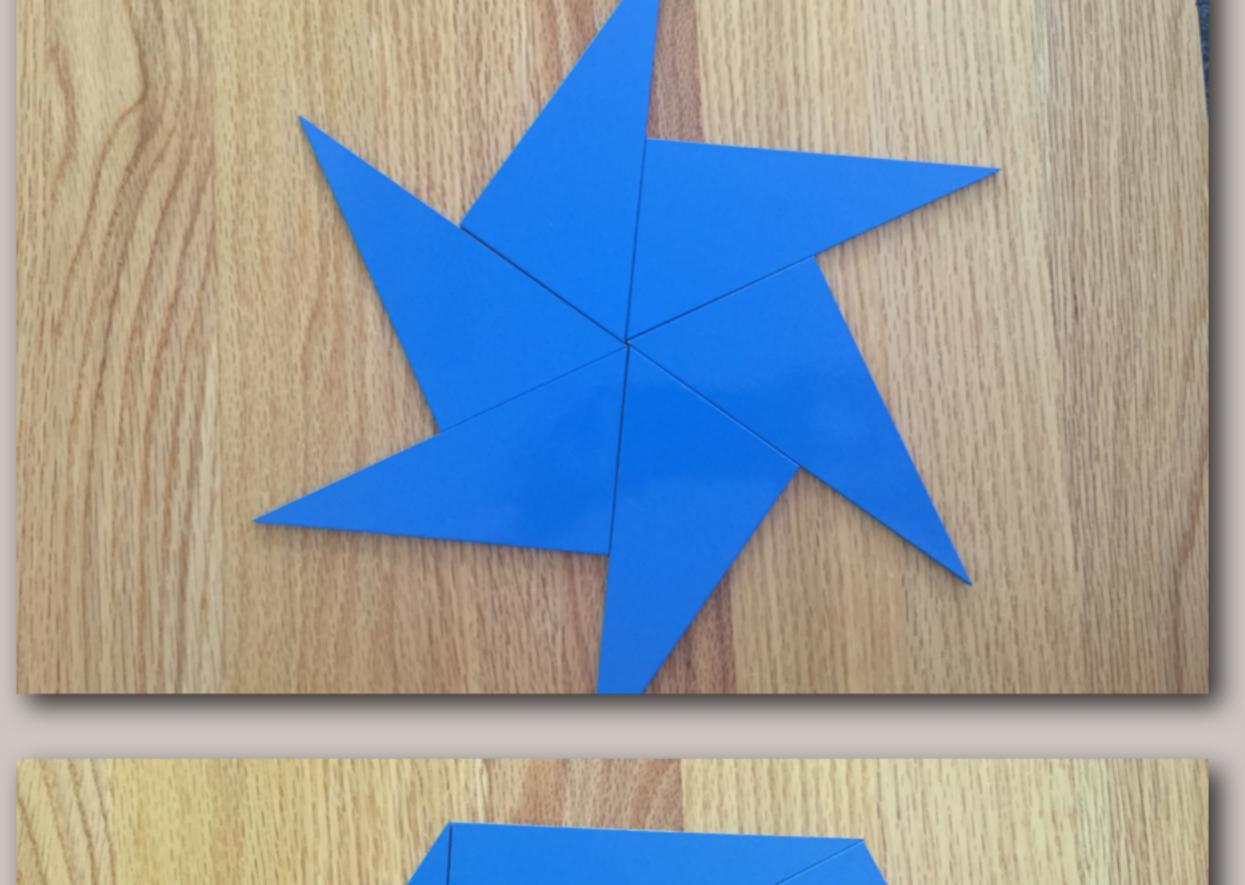
HUMAN CONSCIOUSNESS COMES INTO THE WORLD AS A FLAMING BALL OF IMAGINATION. EVERYTHING INVENTED BY MAN, PHYSICAL OR MENTAL, IS THE FRUIT OF SOMEONE'S IMAGINATION. IN THE STUDY OF HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY WE ARE HELPLESS WITHOUT IMAGINATION, AND WHEN WE PROPOSE TO INTRODUCE THE UNIVERSE TO THE CHILD, WHAT BUT IMAGINATION CAN BE OF USE TO US.

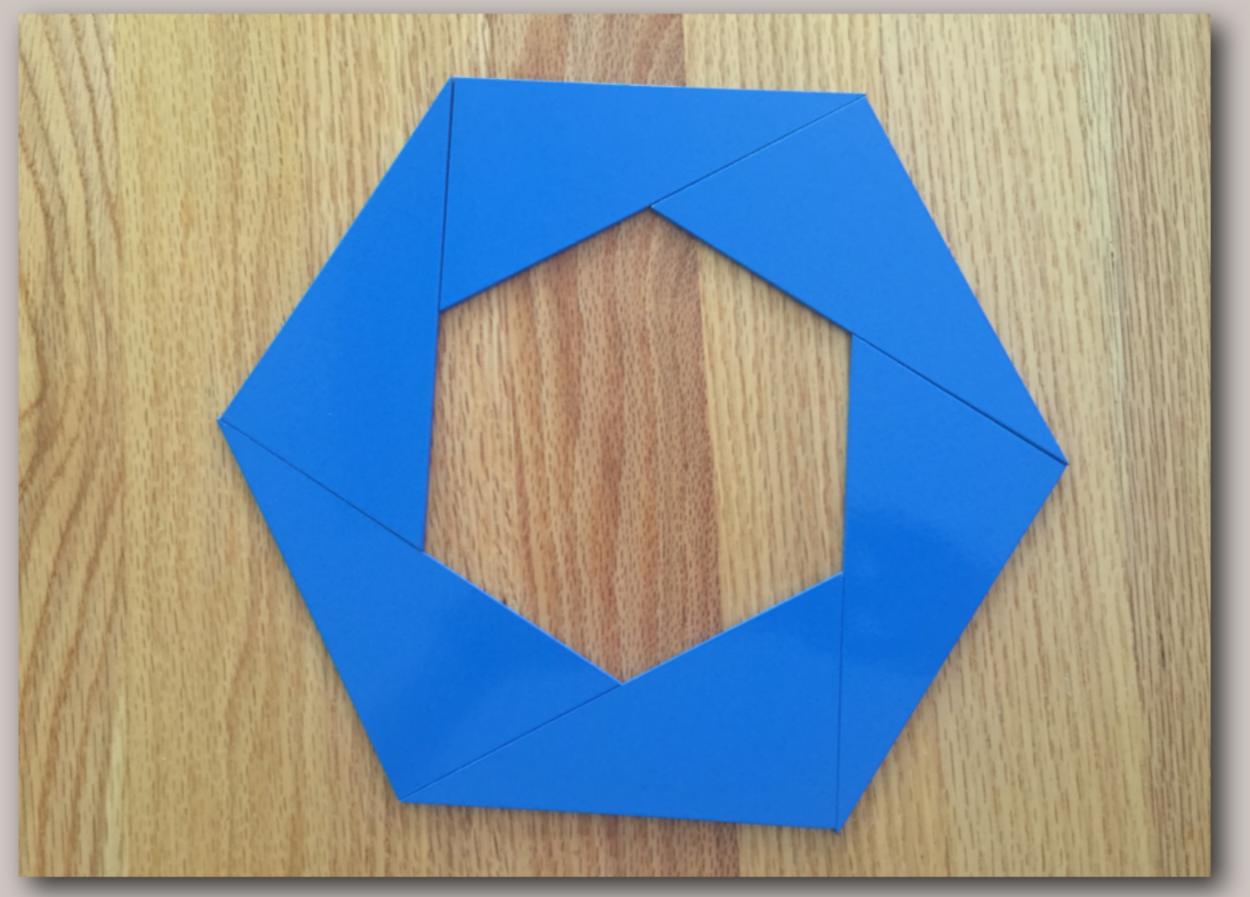
— Maria Montessori, To Educate the Human Potential

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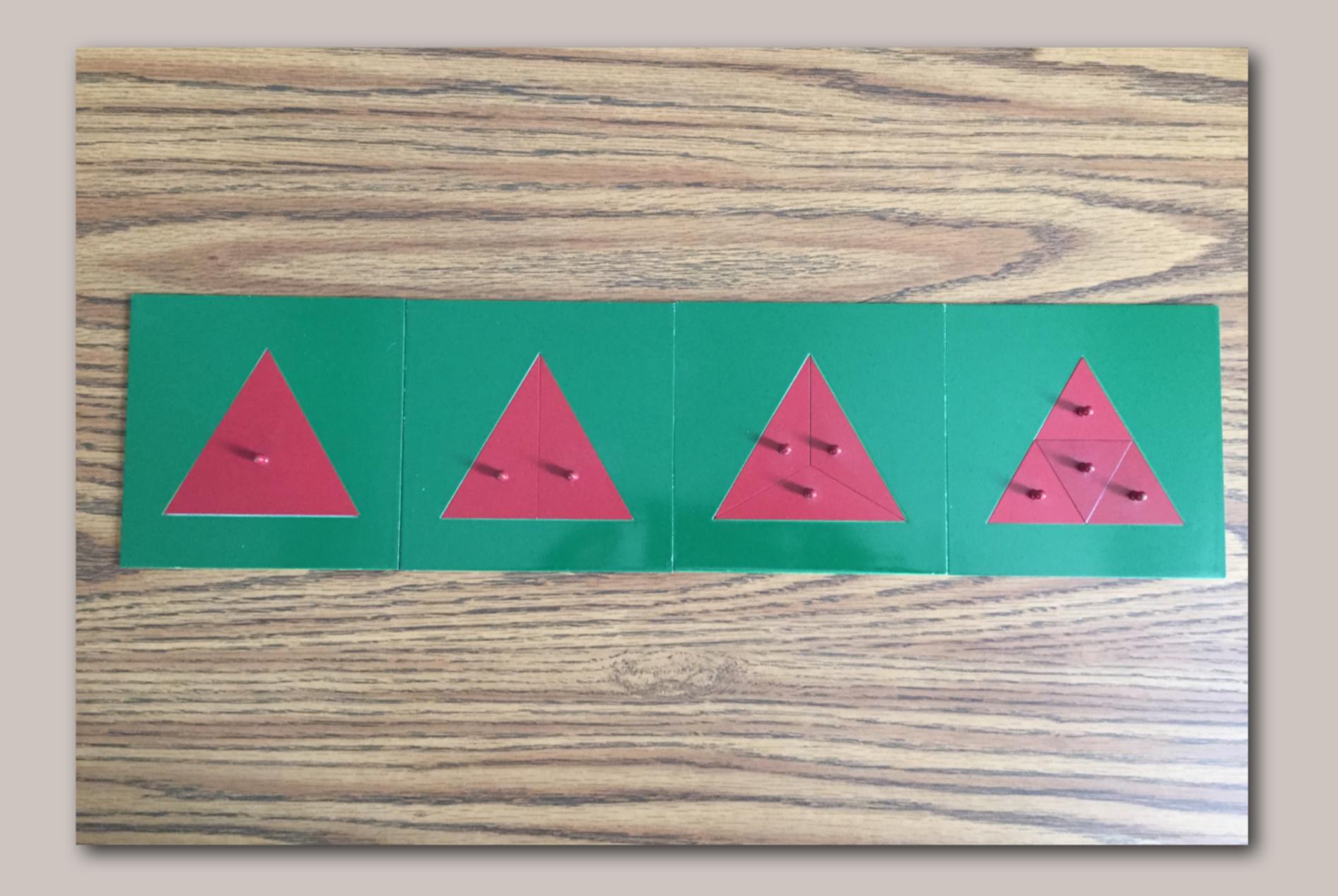
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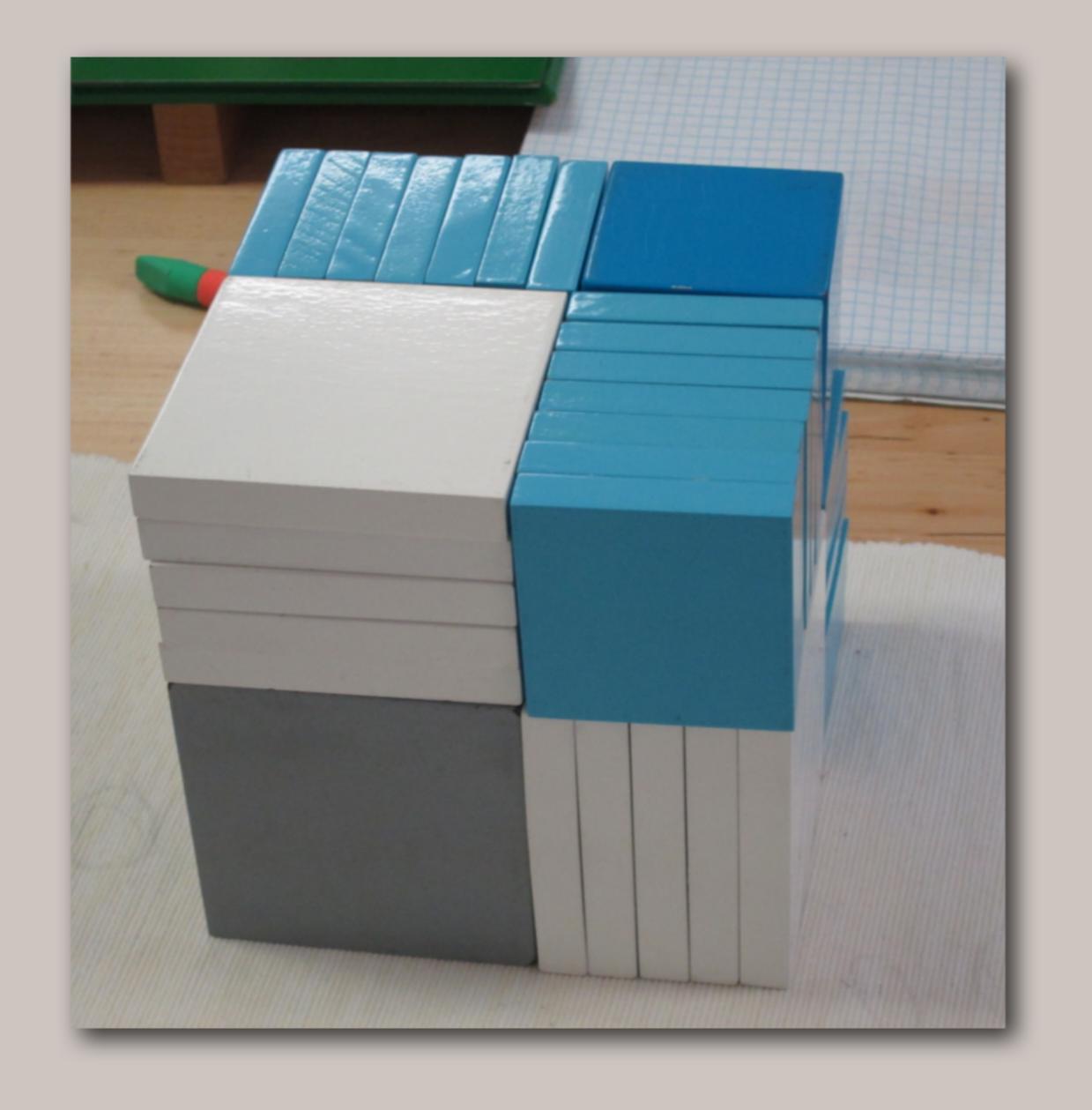






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ABSTRACTION

BUILDING ON A STRONG FOUNDATION

- human tendency
- concrete experience aids understanding
- experience is required,
 regardless of age
 - amount of experience required might change



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EACH PRECEDING PHASE PREPARES THE ONE THAT FOLLOWS, FORMS ITS BASE, NURTURES THE ENERGIES THAT URGE TOWARDS THE SUCCEEDING PERIOD OF LIFE.

— Maria Montessori, From Childhood to Adolescence

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