

## Activity: *My Identity Collage*

**Purpose:** To celebrate each child's unique identity and foster a classroom culture of inclusivity, diversity, and respect.



### Materials Needed:

- Magazines, printed images, or digital printouts (ensure representation of different cultures, abilities, and family structures)
- Large sheets of paper or cardstock
- Safety scissors and glue sticks
- Markers, crayons, stickers, or other decorating materials

### Instructions:

1. **Introduction:** Begin by explaining that everyone is unique and special. Share how our classroom is like a “community garden,” where each child adds something different and wonderful.
2. **Collage Creation:** Invite children to cut or select images that represent them—their family, culture, favorite foods, hobbies, celebrations, or even



how they like to learn. Younger children can draw or use pre-selected images if needed.

3. **Sharing Circle:** Once the collages are complete, gather in a circle. Give each child a chance to share their collage with their classmates. Encourage active listening and positive feedback from peers.
4. **Class Display:** Display the collages together on a bulletin board or wall, creating a “We Are Montessori” gallery.

#### **Adaptations for Inclusive Classrooms:**

- Children with exceptionalities can use assistive technology, receive adult support, or create simplified versions with fewer steps.
- Provide alternative materials (e.g., textured paper, large images, or pre-cut visuals) to ensure accessibility.

#### **Why This Works in Montessori:**

- Promotes independence and choice (children select their own images and ideas).
- Encourages respect for self and others through listening and sharing.
- Reinforces Montessori’s emphasis on observation, community, and valuing the whole child.

