

SENSITIVE PERIODS

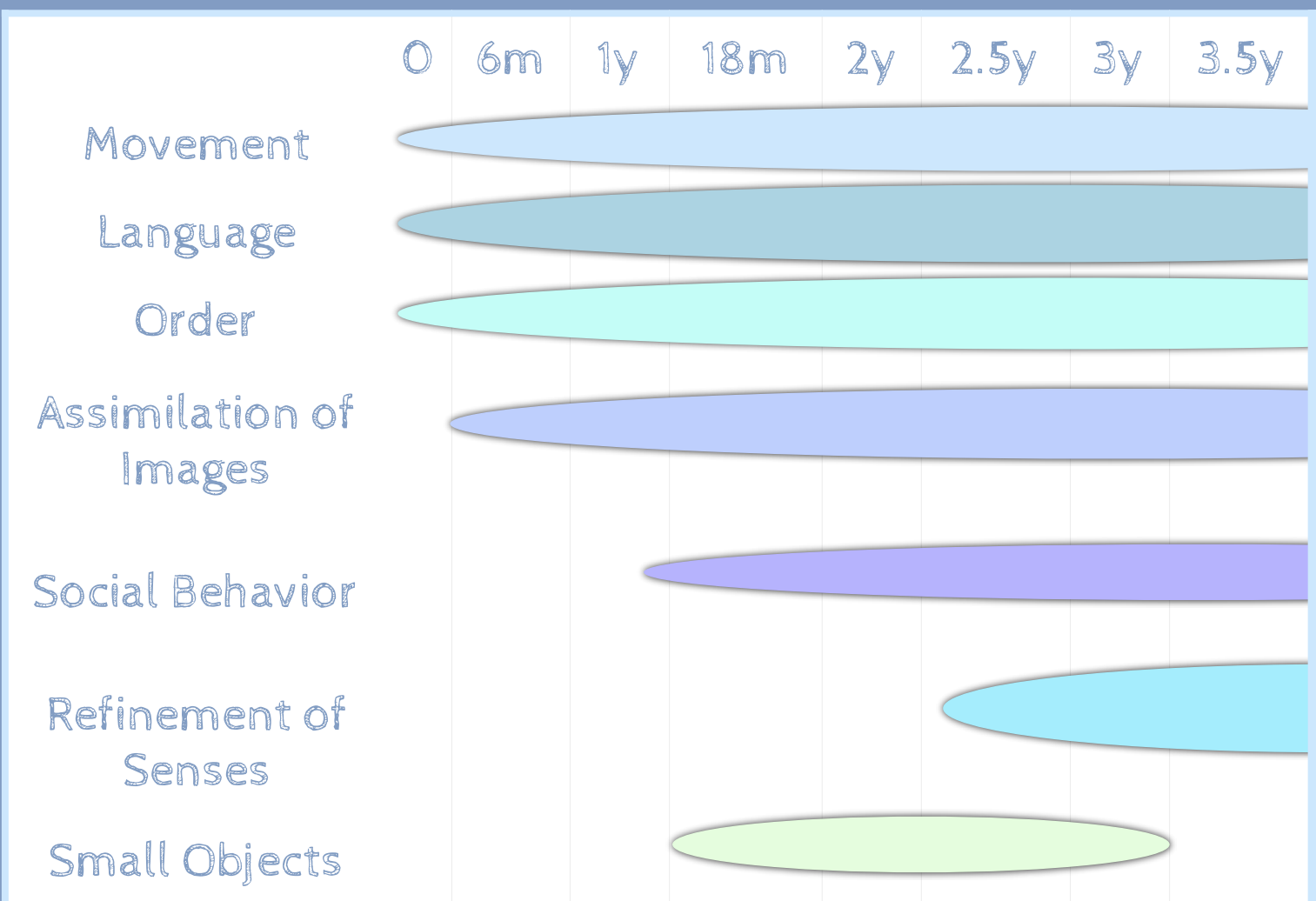
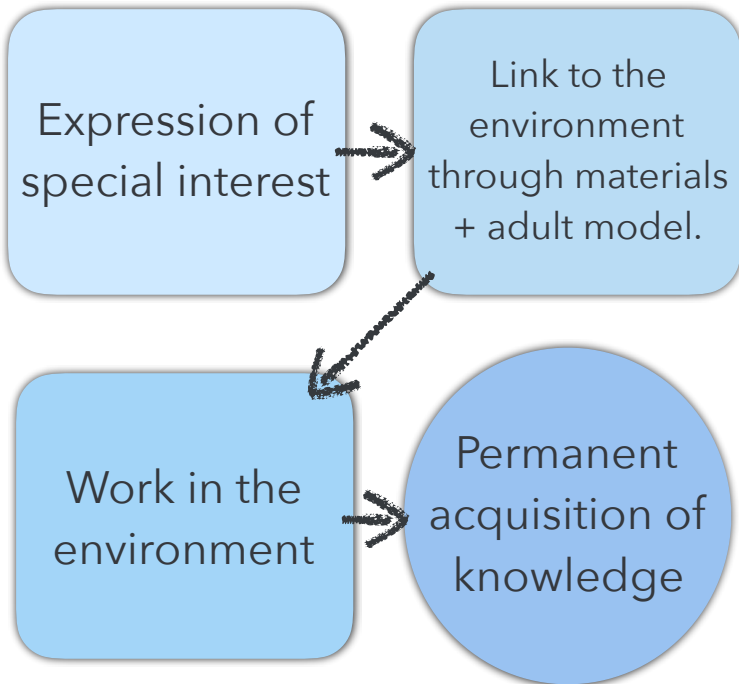
the 3rd cornerstone of the Montessori approach & the child's development

WHAT ARE THEY?

A sensitive period is a special sensibility in the child during their early development. It is a temporary disposition for learning a particular skill. Once this trait, or characteristic, has been acquired, the special sensibility disappears.

Thanks to sensitive periods, nature gives new opportunities to the child and allows him to take from the environment what he needs at the right time.

HOW DO THEY WORK?



2 TYPES OF EXPRESSIONS

internal (invisible to the parent) controlled by the inner teacher and directs the child toward the experiences in the environment

external (visible through the child's choice of work) increased intensity of activity, repetition, intense concentration
- after completing their work, the child feels refreshed, happy + present

SENSITIVE PERIOD DESCRIPTIONS

movement the unconscious drive to move, physical and creative work; directly connected to intelligence

language the ability to learn any number of languages without direct teaching

order provides points of reference, the child's way to understand the world

assimilation of images observation, oral exploration; requires unobstructed vision and freedom of movement

social behavior imitating adults, exploring social boundaries

refinement of senses employ all the senses to actually notice differences

small objects attention to tiny details unnoticed by adults