Jewish Early Childhood Education - Reggio-Emilia 😩 Jewish Teachings?

"The more time you spend with children, the more you notice how inquisitive they are about the world and how keen is their thinking even about the most subtle things - things which escape materiality, easy recognition, definite forms, and the laws of invariance, things you can touch but can't touch, that brush against the real and imaginary, that have something of the mysterious about them and offer wide margins of interpretation."

"It has been said that the environment should act as a kind of aquarium which reflects the ideas, ethics, attitudes and cultures of the people who live in it. This is what we are working toward."

"What children learn does not follow as an automatic result from that is taught, rather, it is in large part due to the children's own doing, as a consequence of their activities and our resources."

"We need to cultivate...an atmosphere of reciprocal help and socialization. Implicit in this a decisive response to a child's need to feel whole. Feeling whole is a biological and cultural necessity for the child (and also for the adult). It is a vital state of well-being."

Loris Malaguzzi

Ben Bag-Bag used to say of the Torah: "Turn is and turn it again, for everything is init. Pore over it, and wax gray and old over it. Stir not from it for you can have no better rule than it."

- Pirkei Avot 5:25

The world abides only because of the breath of little children learning Torah.

- Judah HaNasi, Talmud: Shabbat 119b

Had the Torah not been given to us, we would have learned modesty from cats, honest toil from ants, chastity from doves and gallantry from cocks.

- Jonathan ben Nappaha. Talmud: Erubin 100b

In this world, one who is a dog can become a lion, and one who is a lion can become a dog.

- Midrash: Ruth Rabbah 3:2

I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse; therefore choose life.

- Bible: Deuteronomy 30:19

Rabbi Elazar ben Shammua used to say: "Let honor of your student be as precious to you as your own; and the honor of your colleague as the respect due your teacher; and the respect towards your teacher as your reverence for Ha-Shem."

- Pirkei Avot 4:15

Joshua ben Perachyah said: "Provide for yourself a teacher and get yourself a friend; and judge every man towards merit."

- Pirkei Avot 1:6