

**QRIS Standard HS6: Program uses screen time appropriately.** Screen time includes all electronic media such as television, video/DVD, electronic games, computers, tablets, smart phones, or any other screened electronic devices.

Current 5 star description:

- Program uses screen time intentionally
- Screen time is related to instructional goals (that is, supports and extends children's current interests and experiences; content is discussed with children)
- Screen media is free of advertisement and brand placement
- Screen time is limited to no more than one hour per day

Childpeace Montessori does not use screen time AT ALL for children under six years old. We appeal to QRIS to make a 5-star rating one of NO screen time for this age group. Here are four reasons that can be supported by current research:

1. Children of this age are better served by activities that involve hands-on engagement, by activities that include concrete experiences.
2. The fast moving images so common even in instructional, media-free screen time are at a pace that discourages a young child's ability to keep a train of thought from beginning to middle to end. At this stage of brain development, it essentially encourages attention deficit disorder.
3. One can argue that screen time makes interesting images available that a child might not have available in their own experience, e.g. wildlife in a foreign location. However, books also can provide these images while allowing for more active conversation, individualized orientation to the images, and greater flexibility with the length of time a child participates.
4. It is our cultural reality that parents tend to over-use screen time, so it is helpful to balance this with no screen time in the professional childcare hours of the day.