

# Emma Plank - Curriculum Vitae

Emma Plank – Curriculum Vitae

## CURRICULUM VITAE

EMMA N. PLANK

Esterházygasse 28/II/34

A-1060 Wien

Tel.: 56-95-72

AUSBILDUNG: Montessori Training Course, Amsterdam, Sommer-Sem. 1924.  
Staatliche Lehrerbildungsanstalt, Wien; Matura 1926.  
International Montessori Training Course, Berlin,  
Diplom 1927.

Hydrobiologische Station der Universität Wien, Lunz  
am See, Sommer 1926 und 1927 (außerordentl. Hörerin)  
Psychoanalytisches Institut, Wien; Zertifikat für  
Lehrer 1938.

Mills College, Kalifornien; M.A. in Child Development,  
1947.

TATIGKEIT: Montessori-Schule, Wien, von der Praktikantin bis zur  
Leiterin der Volksschule, 1922-1938.  
Basque Children's Home, London, England; Superintendent  
(mit R.Plank), Sommer 1938.  
Presidio Hill School, San Francisco, Kalifornien;  
Lehrerin, später Direktorin, 1939-1950.  
Mills College, Kalifornien; Instructor, 1947-1948.  
Director, Special Project, American Friends Service  
Committee, Wien 1948-1950.  
Western Reserve University (später: Case Western  
Reserve University) Cleveland, Ohio; Assistant  
Professor bis Professor Emerita, School of Medicine,  
1950-1972. Gleichzeitig: Director of Child Life  
and Education Program, Cleveland Metropolitan  
General Hospital, 1955-1972.  
Vorlesungen in den USA, Deutschland, Israel, Österreich,  
Schweden, Island u.a.  
University of California at Davis; Visiting Professor,  
Departments of Pediatrics and Human Development,  
Wintersem. 1976.  
Consultant to social agencies on work with groups of  
parents, San Francisco und Cleveland.



AUSZEICHNUNGEN UND MITGLIEDSCHAFTEN:

Grace Owen Avar, Mills College, 1947.

Medaille der Stadt Wien, 1949.

Gold Medal, Montessori Centennial, 1970.

Fellow, Society for Research in Child Development,  
1948-1970.

Midwestern Association for Nursery Education, President  
1961-1962.

Fellow, American Orthopsychiatric Association, since  
1960.

National Association for the Education of Young  
Children, Chairman of the Health Committee,  
1969-1971.

North Ohio Pediatric Society.

Association for the Care of Children in Hospitals,  
Gründungsmitglied, President, 1969-1970; Liaison  
to American Academy of Pediatrics, Hospital Care  
Committee, 1973-1980.

Early Childhood Award of the Ohio Association for the  
Education of Young Children, 1979.

Doctor of Education, honoris causa, Wheelock College,  
Boston 1988.



## Curriculum Vitae

EMMA N. PLANK  
2387 OVERLOOK ROAD  
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44106

EDUCATION: Federal Teachers' College, Vienna, Austria; Certificate 1926.  
International Montessori Training Course, Berlin, Germany;  
Diploma 1927.  
Psychoanalytic Institute, Vienna, Austria; Certificate for  
Teachers, 1938.  
Mills College, California; M.A. in Child Development, 1947.

EMPLOYMENT: Montessori School, Vienna, Austria; Apprentice to Principal  
of the Elementary School, 1922-1938.  
Basque Children's Home, London, England; Superintendent (with  
husband), Summer 1938.  
Presidio Hill School, San Francisco, California; Teacher, later  
became Director, 1939-1946.  
Mills College, California; Instructor, 1947-1948.  
Director, Special Project, American Friends Service Committee,  
Vienna, Austria; 1948-1950.  
Western Reserve University (later Case Western Reserve University)  
Cleveland, Ohio; Assistant Professor to Professor Emeritus,  
School of Medicine, 1950-1972. Concurrently, Director of  
Child Life and Education Program, Cleveland Metropolitan  
General Hospital, 1955-1972.  
Lecturing in the United States and Abroad (Germany, Israel, Austria,  
Italy, etc.).  
University of California at Davis; Visiting Professor, Departments  
of Pediatrics and Human Development, Winter Quarter 1976.  
Consultant to social agencies on work with groups of parents.

## AWARDS AND

MEMBERSHIPS: Grace Owen Award, Mills College, 1947.  
Medal of the City of Vienna, 1949.  
Gold Medal, Montessori Centennial, 1970.  
Fellow, Society for Research in Child Development, 1948-1970.  
Midwestern Association for Nursery Education, President 1961-1962.  
Fellow, American Orthopsychiatric Association, since 1960.  
National Association for the Education of Young Children, Chairman  
of the Health Committee, 1969-1971.  
Northern Ohio Pediatric Society.  
Association for the Care of Children in Hospitals, Founder and  
President, 1969-1970; Liaison to American Academy of Pediatrics,  
Hospital Care Committee, ACCH, present.  
Early Childhood Award of the Ohio Association for the Education of  
Young Children, 1979.

PERSONAL: Date of Birth: 11/11/05  
Place: Vienna, Austria  
U.S. Citizenship: 1944  
Marital Status: Married (1932)



EMMA N. PLANK  
Esterházygasse 28/II/34  
A-1060 Wien  
Tel.: 56 82 485

AUSBILDUNG: Staatliche Lehrerbildungsanstalt, Wien; Matura 1926.  
International Montessori Training Course, Berlin:  
Diplom 1927.  
Psychoanalytisches Institut, Wien; Zeugnis für Lehrer, 1938.  
Mills College, California; M.A. in Child Development, 1947.

TÄTIGKEIT: Montessori-Schule, Wien; Praktikantin, später Leiterin  
der Volksschule, 1922-1938.  
Basque Children's Home, London, England; Superintendent (mit  
R.Plank), Sommer 1938.  
Presidio Hill School, San Francisco, Kalifornien; Lehrerin,  
später Direktorin, 1939-1946.  
Mills College, Kalifornien; Instructor, 1947-1948.  
Director, Special Project, American Friends Service Committee,  
Wien; 1948-1950  
Western Reserve University (später: Case Western Reserve  
University) Cleveland, Ohio; Assistant Professor,  
später Professor Emeritus, School of Medicine, 1950-  
1972. Gleichzeitig: Director of Child Life and  
Education Program, Cleveland Metropolitan General  
Hospital, 1955-1972.  
Vorlesungen in den USA, Deutschland, Israel, Österreich u.a.  
University of California at Davis; Visiting Professor,  
Departments of Pediatrics and Human Development,  
Wintersemester 1976.  
Konsultent der Sozialberatungsstellen für Arbeiten mit Eltern-  
gruppen.

AUSZEICHNUNGEN UND MITGLIEDSCHAFTEN:

Grace Owen Award, Mills College, 1947.  
Medaille der Stadt Wien, 1949.  
Gold Medal, Montessori Centennial, 1970.  
Fellow, Society for Research in Child Development, 1948-1970.  
Midwestern Association for Nursery Education, President 1961-1962.  
Fellow, American Orthopsychiatric Association, since 1960.  
National Association for the Education of Young Children,  
Chairman of the Health Committee, 1969-1971.  
Northern Ohio Pediatric Society.  
Association for the Care of Children in Hospitals, Founder  
and President, 1969-1970; Liaison to American Academy  
of Pediatrics, Hospital Care Committee, ACCE, present.  
Early Childhood Award of the Ohio Association for the  
Education of Young Children, 1979.



PUBLIKATIONEN 1925-1937 in Wien  
Emma N. Plank (bis 1932 unter  
Mädchenamen Nuschi Spira)

Call of Education, Amsterdam, October 1925 / Das Sommerheim der  
Wiener Montessori-Schule.

Aus dem Arbeitskreis der Wiener Montessorischule, Wien 1929,  
Selbstverlag / Schriftliche Ausdrucksformen von  
6-8-jährigen Kindern.

Die Quelle, Monatshefte für pädagogische Reform, Wien, Nov. 1929 /  
Das Elternbuch.

-----, Dez. 1929 / Der internationale Montessorikongress.

-----, Aug. 1931 / Das Kind und seine lebende Umwelt.

-----, Sept. 1931 / Beobachtungen über geistige Arbeit  
bei 5-jährigen.

-----, Jan. 1932 / Einführung in das Rechnen im Montessori-  
Kinderhaus.

Zeitschrift für psychoanalytische Pädagogik, Wien März/April 1933  
(VII/3-4) / Affektive Förderung und Hemmung des Lernens.

Schweizer Erziehungsrundschau, Zürich, Mai 1933 (VI/2) / Die  
Montessori-Pädagogik in der Volksschule.

Zeitschrift für psychoanalytische Pädagogik, Wien, Feb. 1933 /  
Ein abnormes Kind (Herbert in der Schule).

-----, Jan. 1937 / Eine Einschlafstörung aus Todesangst.

---

1949-1950

Österreichisches Wohlfahrtswesen, Juli 1948 / Entwicklungsstufen  
der Kindlichen Persönlichkeit - vom Kindergarten aus  
gesehen.

Erziehung und Unterricht, Okt. 1948 / Das Landschulheim - ein  
Beitrag zur Persönlichkeitsentwicklung.

Jungbrunnen Verlag, Wien 1950 / Beiträge zur Kleinkindpädagogik.



EMMA N. PLANK

Outside Lectures, 1970/71

- ✓ Sept. 19/20 - 70 Symposium on the Effects of Hospitalization on Children, San Francisco, Calif. "Preparation for Hospitalization" and "Hospitalization as a Psychological Growth Experience"
- ✓ Oct. 5/6 - 70 Dep't. of Pediatrics, School of Medicine, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ont. (Lectures and consultations)
- ✓ Oct. 16/17 - 70 Academy of Pediatrics, San Francisco, Calif. "Children's Creativity under the Stress of Hospitalization"
- ✓ Nov. 19 - 70 National Ass'n. for the Educ. of Young Children, Boston, Mass. "The Hospitalized Child"
- Dec. 8 70 CWRU Dep't. of Nutrition (grad. students) "Understanding Hospitalized Children and Their Feeding"
- ✓ Dec. 13-18 - 70 White House Conference on Children, Washington, D.C. (delegate)
- Jan. 17 & 18 - 71 Nursing Dep't., Univ. Hosp. of Cleveland. "Children and Death"
- Jan. 27 - 71 Junior Women's Club (our benefactors), Rocky River, Ohio. "Children's Needs in the Hospital"
- ✓ March 24 - 71 Toledo Hosp., and St. Vincent Hosp., Toledo, Ohio (two lectures). "Child Care in the Hospital"
- ✓ Apr. 23 - 71 Pennsylvania State University, Advanced Training for Nurses in Practice, Du Bois, Penna. "Preparation for Surgery" and "Children and Death"
- ✓ April 29/30 - 71 Foothill Hospital & Dep't. of Pediatrics, Med. School, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alb. (Program Consultant and Lecturer)
- ✓ May 6 - 71 Midwestern Ass'n. for Education of Young Children, Cincinnati, Ohio. "The Hospitalized Child"
- ✓ May 20 - 71 Amer. Ass'n. for Child Care in Hospitals, New York, N.Y. (workshop, with Dr. Hansbarger) "Outpatient Programs"
- ✓ May 27 - 71 Dep't. of Pediatrics, School of Medicine, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany. "Heilpaedagogik im Kinderkrankenhaus"



EMMA N. PLANK

Outside Committee Assignments, 1970/71

Member of the National Board of Directors, Amer. Ass'n. for Child Care  
in Hospitals

Chairman, Cleveland study group of above organization (involving B&C,  
St.Luke's, Mt.Sinai, Health Hill, and our staff)

Member, Advisory Committee, Dep't. of Early Childhood Education, ~~Sixers~~  
Cuyahoga Community College

Member, Advisory Committee, Vocational Education (child care), Cleveland  
Public Schools



Emma N. Plank

Regular Lectures and Committees CMGH/CWRU

For Clerks in Pediatrics:

Introduction to the impact of hospitalization on children. Preparation for procedures or surgery.

For Clerks in Psychiatry:

Weekly conferences with individual students during their psychiatric clerkship.

For Student Nurses:

Two to Three lectures during their pediatric rotation.

For Students in Medical Technology:

One lecture on children's fantasies about procedures and treatment, particularly as the medical technician meets it.

For House Officers, Medical and Nursing Students, Social Service Workers and Child Life Staff:

Monthly in-service training film with general discussion.

Member of the Burn Committee

Consultant to Committee on Day Care for Committee of Concern

Project Director for Signe Dysken and Seth Hirschfeld, M-'71.

Taught two students (Nursing-CWRU) during Intersession.



## TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

### EMMA N. PLANK

Federal Teachers College, Vienna, Austria, General Elementary and Nursery School Credentials, 1926.

International Montessori Training Course, Berlin, Germany, Diploma for Nursery and Elementary School Education, 1927.

One semester each in clinical psychology in Amsterdam and Berlin, 1924 and 1927.

Psychoanalytic Association, Vienna, 1935-38, Certificate for Teachers.

Attendance at different Summer Sessions and Institutes in Austria, Denmark, England, Switzerland, and United States, 1927 - 1950.

Graduate study at University of California and Mills College, California. M.A. in Child Development, 1947.

California State Teaching Credential in Adult Education.

-----

Teaching at the Vienna Montessori School, nursery school through grade four, 1924 - 1931.

Principal, Montessori Elementary School, Vienna, 1931-38.

Instructor and Supervisor of Practice Teaching, Vienna, 1931-34.

Superintendent, Basque Children's Home, Kingston, England, Summer, 1938.

Teacher, Later Principal, Presidio Hill School, San Francisco, California, 1939-1946.

Director of various summer camps.

Instructor in Parent Education, San Francisco Public Schools, part-time, 1946-1948.

Instructor, Department of Child Development, Mills College, California, summer 1947, winter 1947-48.

Instructor in Parent Education, Marin College, California, part-time winter 1947, spring 1950.

Director of Special Project, American Friends Service Committee, Vienna 1948-1950 (development of a demonstration school for preschool children, establishment of courses in child development at the Vienna School of Social Work and the Pedagogic Institute.)



# EMMA PLANK

Ten years after retiring and three years since in an impressive playground for children hospitalized here was dedicated in her name, Emma Plank looks to the future with the same gusto and gutsiness that characterized her illustrious 17-year career with Cleveland Metropolitan General Hospital.

A charming woman, Plank joined City Hospital — Metro General's forerunner — in 1955 to start the first formal, university-affiliated child life and education program in the United States. As an assistant professor of child development with Western Reserve University (WRU), Plank worked closely with the Department of Pediatrics and its director, Dr. Frederick Robbins.

It was Dr. Robbins, who later became dean of the WRU Medical School, who persuaded Plank to expand her talents at City Hospital by organizing a program in which her graduate students could work closely with 15 pre-school tuberculosis patients. In essence, a nursery school was set up for these youngsters.

"Dr. Robbins felt it was inhuman to keep children in the hospital month after month without providing them with something to do," Plank recalled. Thanks to a two-year, \$15,000 grant from the Cleveland Foundation in the spring of 1955, young TB patients were soon being furnished with the special care that most medical personnel do not have the time to provide. By summer, the educating, interacting, playing — the healing-by-loving — being offered by Plank, schoolteacher Wilma Rice and the other child life staff members were being spread to the children with polio and respiratory difficulties.

Child life and education, now a profession recognized nationwide, had begun.



Above, Emma Plank works with a child as part of a babysitting service formerly provided in the Playcorner. Below, 10 years later, Plank ponders a question about her future.







