

## Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale - Revised

Designed to assess group programs for preschool through kindergarten children ages 2 through 5.

Scale consists of 43 items organized into seven subscales:

- Space and furnishings
- Personal care routines
- Language, reasoning
- Activities
- Interactions
- Program structure
- Parents and staff

Contains inclusive and culturally sensitive indicators for many items. Items cover interaction (staff-child, child-child and discipline); curriculum (nature/science and math/number) health and safety; and parents and staff.



## Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale - Revised

Designed to assess center-based child-care programs for infants and toddlers up to age 2.

Scale consists of 39 items organized into seven subscales:

- Space and furnishings
- Personal care routines
- Listening and talking
- Activities
- Interaction
- Program structure
- Parents and staff

Curriculum and program items include helping children understand language; nature/science; use of television, video and computers; and free play and group play activities. Items have been added to make the scale more inclusive and culturally sensitive, to address professional needs of staff and to reflect the latest health and safety information.



## Subscale Rating

Each Subscale is rated on a continuum where:

- 1 = Inadequate
- 2 = Better than adequate but not quite custodial care/minimal
- 3 = Custodial care/minimal
- 4 = Better than custodial care/minimal but not quite basic developmental care/good
- 5 = Basic developmental care/good
- 6 = Better than basic developmental care/good but not quite enhanced developmental care/excellent
- 7 = Enhanced developmental care/excellent

## Family Day Care Environment Rating Scale

Designed to assess family child-care programs conducted in a provider's home.

Scale consists of 40 items, including eight supplementary items for programs enrolling children with disabilities.

The items are organized into seven subscales:

- Space and furnishings for care and learning
- Basic care
- Language and reasoning
- Learning activities
- Social development
- Adult needs
- Provisions for exceptional children

## School Age Care Environment Rating Scale

Designed to assess group-care programs for children ages 5 to 12.

Scale consists of 49 items, including six supplementary items for programs enrolling children with disabilities.

- Health and safety
- Activities
- Interactions
- Program structure
- Staff development
- Special needs



A quality early childhood program must provide three basic components for children to grow and succeed:

- Protection of children's health and safety
- Positive relationships
- Opportunities for stimulation and learning from experiences

No one component is more or less important than the others.

Designed at the Frank Porter Graham Child Care Institute at the University of North Carolina, environmental rating scales are used to evaluate:

- Physical environment
- Basic care routines
- Curriculum
- Caregiver and child interactions
- Schedules and program structure
- Parental involvement
- Staff education



Four environmental rating scales are in use now:

1. Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale – Revised
  - Designed to assess group programs for preschool through kindergarten children ages 2 through 5.
2. Infant and Toddler Environment Rating Scale – Revised
  - Designed to assess group programs for children from birth to age 2.
3. Family Day Care Environment
  - Designed to assess family child-care programs conducted in a provider's home.
4. School-Age Care Environment
  - Designed to assess group-care programs for children ages 5 to 12.



## References:

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**Harms, T., Clifford, R. M., & Cryer, D. (2005).** *Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale-Revised.* New York, N.Y.: Teachers College Press.

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[www.dss.state.la.us](http://www.dss.state.la.us)  
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# Child Care Environment Rating Scales



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