

ECERS-R Materials Checklist

This checklist is to assist programs in preparing their classroom environments for a Level 3 - Level 5 rating. This list does not guarantee a higher rating in Colorado Shines. For more information and clarification on classroom environments, refer to the All About The ECERS-R and the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale Revised Edition

| | A and the Eurly Childhood Environment Rating State Revised Eurlion. | |
|--|---|--|
| Fine Motor | Motor Materials rotated regularly to maintain interest Materials accessible for 1/3 of the day | |
| Small building toys: | Art materials: | |
| Interlocking blocks Lincoln Logs Bristle blocks Tinker Toys - (interlocking/building) Small blocks, inch cubes | Crayons, watercolor markers (wide or narrow) Pencils (colored or black, large or small) Paints (tempera or watercolors) with brushes Collage materials (glue, paste, string, yarn, paper scraps, fabric) | |
| <u>Manipulatives:</u> | | |
| Stringing beads in various sizes, colors, shapes Pegs/peg board in various sizes, colors, shapes Lacing cards with strings Gears with interlocking plates Connectors Nuts and bolts | Puzzles:In frames with differing number of piecesKnobs to grasp or knob lessVarying levels of difficultyFloor puzzlesJigsaw puzzles | |
| Notes: | | |
| | 3-5 of each type from at least 4 of the art materials are available Materials available for 1/3 of the day Individual expression exhibited 3-D art offered monthly | |
| | Multi-step projects encouraged Art activities related to experiences | |
| Drawing Materials: | Art activities related to experiences Things to draw/scribble on: | |
| | | |
| □ Paper | Paper in various shapes, sizes and types | |
| | Chalk boards | |

Chalk boards





| Chalk Pens / pencils | Dry erase boards |
|--|--|
| 3-D Materials: Wood for gluing or for carpentry Pipe cleaners Craft/popsicle sticks | Collage Materials: Paste or glue Paper in various types, colors and shapes Magazine pictures Egg cartons Felt remnants, cotton balls, sequins, feathers, buttons, glitter Pom-poms |
| Tools: Safe scissors Staplers Hole punches Tape dispensers with tape Tools to use with play dough (stencils, sponge painters, rollers, brushes of various sizes and shapes) Paint/Bingo daubers | Paint materials: Tempera paints Watercolor paint sets with brushes and paper |
| Notes: | |
| | |
| Music for both a group activity and daily free choice available Music materials accessible for at least 1 hour daily for programs operating 8 or more hours At least 3 types of music must be used regularly Creative music - acting out songs, rhymes or chants (large muscle activity) must be a daily option At least one music activity daily (sing songs, soft music at nap, play music for dancing) Instruments enough for at least half of the children to use at once If majority of the children are 4 and over, children should be able to use tapes/CD's independently to listen to music Movement/dance activity at least weekly to encourage creativity an understanding Movement/dance activity can be prescribed body actions or create their own motions | |
| Music materials: | Movement: |
| □ Tape / CD / record player | Dancing |
| Software for computers that offer extensive musical content | Marching Exercising |
| Dance props (scarves, bean bags) | |
| | □ Yoga |
| Musical instruments: Drums | Variety of music tapes / CDs / records: > Classical |



| Electric keyboards Bells Piano Triangles Xylophones Harmonicas | Jazz Rock Regg Rhyt Musi | dren's songs gae hm and blues c characteristic of different cultures is in different languages ibies |
|---|---|---|
| Rhythm sticks | > Cour | ntry and Western |
| Shakers | | |
| Notes: | | |
| | | |
| Blocks - Gross Motor | children to build elabor Blocks are accessible for At least two types of blicharacteristics to provision for varied building experience At least 3 types of accele people) Create a special block are Blocks available inside Blocks stored according outlines needed) | or 1/3 of the day ocks are accessible (they must have different de eriences) ssories available (transportation, animals, area, with no other materials with the motor materials not given credit for this item |
| Types of blocks: (includes descriptions) | | nade blocks - can be made from the |
| Unit blocks wood, plastic or foam different sizes and shapes smaller blocks represent fractions of blocks | followin • food • large • plass • foan | g: boxes er cardboard boxes cic containers n containers |
| Large hollow blocks wood, cardboard or hard plastic aboucinder blocks (bigger than unit blocks good for outdoor use | | e boxes d cut into block shapes |
| Block materials: (solid or hollow) | Block acce | essories: |
| U Wood | 🗌 🗌 Small t | rucks, cars, trains |
| □ Plastic | Road si | gns |
| Cardboard | | oy people |
| Cloth-covered or vinyl-covered foa | n 🛛 🗌 Small t | oy animals |
| Notes: | Materials in sand/water | |
| Sand/Water | Provision for sand and w | ater play both indoors and outdoors |

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Sand/water available at least one hour daily for programs operating 8

| • • | or more hours Variety of toys accessible (to measure, dig, scoop, pour, fill, empty, experiment with, explore and learn) Different activities for Water: Bubbles added Color added Vooden or plastic boats used Sink and float experiment done with water play Sponges and nonporous objects used to compare Shells or toy sea creatures added Snall water droppers and large basters used Snall water droppers and large basters used Plastic pipes used to route water Different activities for Sand: Wet sand used instead of dry, with toys that can be used to mold sand Cars and trucks added Another material used instead of sand Tools to make differing designs in sand provided Small animal toys used |
|--|---|
| Types of sand/water containers: Dishpans | Water toys: |
| Plastic bins | Things that sink or float |
| Sand boxes | Turkey basters |
| □ Sand pits | Spray bottles |
| □ Various types of tables | Pumps to experiment with |
| | |
| Bucket | |
| Sinks (not used for hand washing) | |
| Sand/water toys: (to measure, dig, scoop empty and experiment with) | <u>, pour, fill,</u> Scoops |
| Measuring cups | |
| Unbreakable Containers | |
| Funnels | |
| □ Plastic tubes | □ Sifters |
| Molds | Sand / water wheels |
| □ Shovels | Pipes |
| Notes: | |
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| Dramatic Play | Many dramatic play materials accessible at one time for 1/3 of the day. 2-3 gender-specific examples of dress-up items are required Enough props accessible for meaningful play for 2 different themes daily Materials can be accessible indoors or outdoors, but must be enough in either place to allow meaningful play Props rotated and represent diversity (race, culture, ability, age or gender) Dramatic space defined with ample space to play and sufficient, organized storage |
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| Pictures, s | stories and trips are used to enrich children's dramatic play |
|---|--|
| Dress-up clothes: Shirts / blouses for both men and women Dresses, skirts, pants, jackets Footwear boots sandals slippers various shoes Ties, scarves Belts Aprons for cooking or for using tools Uniforms medical firefighter | postal worker office construction Hats for men and women hard hats different job hats hats for different kinds of weather hats for leisure flowery hats Accessories jewelry hair clips purses / tote bags briefcases glasses - no lenses sunglasses |
| Housekeeping props: Child-sized furniture > kitchen sink > stove / oven washer / dryer > refrigerator > ironing board with iron > couch > table and chairs | Cooking / eating equipment pots / pans utensils dishes tea set wok toaster microwave oven Play foods - including different ethnic foods |
| Dolls - showing racial diversity baby dolls dolls representing adults small dolls for dollhouses paper dolls wooden dolls people figures to use with blocks or building sets Doll clothes Soft/ vinyl animals Telephones | Doll furniture baby doll-sized bed highchair stroller cars other disabilities equipment - walkers or wheelchairs Mirror Play houses |
| Different kinds of work props: Office Store Restaurant Construction Zoo keeper Medical Farmer or gardener Airplane or train Fire fighting | Fantasy props: Simple, non-frightening masks or face paint Magic wands or other accessories Lot of costumes Things needed to act out familiar stories Animals / dinosaurs |



| | Examples of outdoor props: (Enough props for meaningful play) |
|--|---|
| Leisure props: | Trucks with people or things to transport |
| Participating in or watching sports | Play houses with furniture, dolls or other |
| | props |
| Going on vacations to different places Picnicking | Riding toys that look like cars with traffic signs |
| □ Bird-watching | □ Gardening tools with wheel barrows |
| □ Fishing | □ Big pieces of equipment shaped like vehicles |
| Boating | with accessories |
| □ Parties | Toy strollers or shopping carts with dolls or stuffed animals |
| | Prop boxes for different jobs (painter, fire fighter, bus driver) |
| Notes: | |
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| Clear evide must occur Realistic a toys, used | nould be encouraged to bring in natural things to share ence or an instance of an everyday nature/science event r (ex. talking about the weather, etc.) nd fact-based books, games, videos, computer games, and to extend knowledge, can be located throughout the |
| scientific c 3-5 examp Sufficient i to allow fo Nature/sci | hould encourage or allow children to experiment with concepts or observe scientific processes unfold les from at least 3 categories accessible for 1/3 of the day numbers of the objects in each collection must be present or exploration of similarities and or differences ence activities requiring staff input offered at least every (cooking, measuring rainfall, field trips) |
| | Living things: (to care for and observe- must be in |
| and shapes- must have at least 3 of the same item to be a collection) | separate containers to count as more than one) House plants, terrarium, seeds that children |
| | plant and watch grow |
| □ Seashells | \Box Garden the class planted and cares for |
| | Class pet |
| | Window bird feeder |
| □ Seed pods | □ Aquarium with fish snails, or other animals |
| Different types of wood | Ant farm with living ants |
| | □ Worm farm |
| □ Birds' nests | Butterfly hatching kit |
| | Eggs that hatch |
| Books, games or toys: (realistic and fact | Nature/science activities: |
| based) | Magnets with objects to experiment with |
| Books (realistic pictures, photos, or drawings) | Magnifying glasses with things to look at |



| Animals Plants | Sink and float activity, with objects to use in an experiment |
|--|---|
| Birds | Racing cars down slopes that vary in length and incline |
| Fish Human body | Shaking cans filled with differing substances to match and compare sounds |
| Seasons Weather | Smelling and matching cans filled with different spices |
| PlantsToys (portray natural life) | Using plastic translucent color paddles to make colors that match objects |
| Plastic sets of animals | Cooking foods that change when mixed, cooled, cooked |
| Puzzles with nature pictures or natural sequences | Completing a weather chart, after looking to see the weather |
| Life cycle play sets Games | Using a rain gauge to record how much rain fell |
| Nature matching cards Nature sequence cards | Planting seeds and/or a garden and taking care of it |
| Body part matching games Board games with a nature theme | Tasting and comparing sweet, sour, bitter, salty |
| | Lifting objects with levers and pulleys |
| Factual nature/science videos or computer games | Using different length pendulums with different weights |
| | Looking at objects under a simple microscope |
| Notes: | |
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| | |
| • 3-5 example | es from all 5 categories accessible for 1/3 of the day, |
| rotated to r | naintain interest, and organized (may not necessarily be in |
| a specific co Math/Number • Two examp | enter) les of daily activities to promote math/number learning |
| must be obs | |
| Math/numb two weeks | er activities requiring staff input should be offered every |
| Counting: | Measuring: |
| Teddy bears or other small objects to count with number labeled mats or bowls | Measuring cups and spoons for sand/water, cooking or housekeeping |
| Money in the dramatic play center | |
| Pegboards with number printed and holes to | Balance scale with things to weigh |
| match | Rulers and tape measures with things to measure |
| Puzzles, toys or games (where quantities of objects are matched to written numbers) | Thermometers |
| Beads and bead patterns (where quantities of objects are matched to written numbers) | Yardsticks or rulers on woodworking bench Height chart |
| objects are matched to written numbers) | |



| Pegs to fill different numbers of pegboard holes | Foot size measurer |
|--|--|
| | Becoming familiar with written numbers: |
| Comparing quantities: | Number puzzles |
| Toys and games used to figure out "more and less" | Agnetic numbers |
| Geoboards and pegs | □ Play telephones |
| Unit blocks | Dramatic play cash register with play money |
| Attribute blocks | Number lotto |
| Parquetry blocks | |
| | 🗌 Calendar |
| Pattern or matching cards for any shape toys | Playing cards |
| Magnetic shapes | Number lacing cards |
| | Number books and posters |
| Notes: | · · · |
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| | actively involved in use of equipment (participate in watch and discuss videos with children, do activities |
| Use of Video, TV, and/or Videos, Ec Time child than 30 m exceed 15 weekly) 2 or more TV/Computers | in educational TV programming, help children learn to use |
| Encourage Active Involvement: | |
| Dance | Creative drawing or painting |
| Play musical instruments | \Box Think and solve problems (computer games) |
| □ Finger plays | \Box Support and extend classroom themes and |
| | activities |
| | Add to children's experiences |
| Notes: | |
| | |
| Presence of All catego with 3-5 b There must one white | different races, cultures, and ethnic groups are represented of diversity must be in classroom and obvious ries of diversity listed need to be included to some degree ooks, pictures and materials st be contrasting examples to receive credit. For example, doll and one African American doll equals one example of diversity as part of daily routines and play must be |
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| observed • Teacher-d | rected activities to help children understand diversity must |
|--|---|
| be include | d |
| | Props: Dress up clothing (representing different countries and customs) |
| | Dolls and puppets (representing people of different cultures) |
| Books, pictures, toys, print and AV materials: | Small toy people representing various ethnic groups, for use with blocks |
| Cultures | Play food representing different cultures |
| □ Ages | Cooking utensils representing different cultures |
| Abilities | □ Baby carriers from different cultures |
| Gender | Play money from different countries |
| | Pieces of fabric or blankets typical of different cultures |
| | Real equipment used by people with disabilities |
| | Equipment for dolls representing certain disabilities |
| | Diversity as part of play activities: |
| | Cooking activities, foods representative of other cultures are prepared by children |
| | Bingo is played in different languages |
| Diversity as part of daily routines: Ethnic foods are served often as meals or | Children regularly dance to music from various cultures |
| snacks Staff use some words in different languages to talk about routines Music from varying cultures is used at | Art materials and activities associated with different cultures are used - colored sands for sand paintings, clay for making pottery, origami paper folding activities |
| naptime | Musical instruments representing various cultures |
| Staff say hello or goodbye in different languages | Children celebrate winter holiday of many different cultures |
| Family traditions and utensils are provided at meals and snacks, if desired | People come in to teach children folk songs of different countries |
| | Children learn dances from different countries |
| | Children see a video of games children play in other countries |
| Notes: | |



| Books and Pictures | A wide selection of books (3-4 examples of each type), rotated to maintain interest with at least 3 relating to current theme, are organized in a reading center and are accessible for a substantial portion of the day (At least 20 books for a group of 15 children plus one extra for each additional child) Books, materials, and activities do not show violence in a graphic way and are appropriate for children in the group Book should include simpler books for younger children, large print books for visually impaired, books in the primary language of children, rhyming games for older children Staff reads books to children informally daily. (During free play, at nap time, as an extension of an activity) |
|--|---|
| A wide selection:FantasyFactual InformationStories about PeopleStories about AnimalsNature/scienceDifferent races and culturesDifferent abilities | encourage children to communicate Posters and pictures Flannel board stories in book area Picture card games Recorded stories and songs Listening center with CD / tape player Puppets in book area Small figures in block area Animals in block area Dramatic play props Dolls |
| Notes: | |
| A well-defined secluded area where one or two children are protected from active play through its placement in the room The cozy area should be filled with several types of soft furnishings such as carpet, stuffed animals, pillows, bean bags or soft chairs to allow children to completely escape the hardness of the classroom Cozy Area / Privacy Space may be combined if all criteria are met Books, quiet games, toys, and soft music should be accessible | |

Resources: East Baton Rouge Parish Schools Title | Pre-Kindergarten 2008 - 2009 Virginia Early Childhood Foundation for Virginia Quality (2016). Virginia Quality Technical Assistance Specialist Toolkit. http://smartbeginnings.org/Portals/5/PDFs/VSQI/Final%20Toolkit%203.23.16.pdf Cryer, D., Harms, T., & Riley, C. (2003). All about the ECERS-R. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan PACT House Publishing. Harms, T., Clifford, R.M., Cryer, D. (2005). Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale-Revised Edition. New York, NY: Teacher College Press.

