



Environment Rating Scales (ERS)

What is ERS?

ERS is a set of age specific instruments that a program can use to measure the experiences of teachers and children in a classroom or group setting. There is an ERS instrument for use with infant/toddlers, preschool, school age and mixed age groups in a family or group child care home. The 3 to 4 hour assessment process is primarily observation that is focused on the following areas:

- Space and Furnishings
- Health and Safety
- Learning Activities
- Interactions
- Program Structure
- Staff Development
- Special Needs
- Listening and Talking
- Personal Care Routines
- Parents and Staff
- Language and Reasoning
- Literacy

ERS can be used for self-assessment or utilized with a Quality Coach. ERS assessments include observation and may include a tour of the child care space and an interview with a teacher.

Which program(s) could use ERS?

ERS can be used in center based, home based or group home settings.

How does ERS support Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)?

Programs can gain valuable information about their classroom environment and interactions which can be used to increase the quality of the program.

Additional Information/Training

Additional information on the ERS tools, including downloadable documents and resources may be found on <http://www.ersi.info/>