

# FAMILY CHILD CARE ENVIRONMENT RATING SCALE

## INTEREST CENTERS

### FCCERS-3

#### Cozy Area

- A substantial amount of softness
- Examples of soft furnishings include a carpet/rug with several cushions, an upholstered couch/chair, a covered mattress, etc.
- Should be protected from active play

\*You could combine your defined cozy area with books to create a cozy reading center for the children.

#### Blocks

- Set aside out of traffic
- For children 2 years of age and older
- Ample space and storage
- Suitable building surface (flat rug or other steady surface)
- Should include many blocks and at least 10 accessories for each age group accessible
- Blocks are smooth-sided, with sides of about two inches or more, that do not connect and fall over easily when stacked
- Accessories include appropriately sized toys that can be used with blocks to extend block play

#### Dramatic Play

- Large center in the childcare space
- Children free to use the materials in their own way, without interference from other activities
- Should be uncluttered and uncrowded, allowing children to move around the area easily
- Children can access equipment/materials without disturbing other children playing in the center

Material expectations:

- **Infants:** Dolls, soft toy animals, pots and pans, toy telephones
- **Toddlers:** Simple dress-up clothes, child-sized house furniture, cooking/eating props, baby dolls and doll furnishings, soft toy animals

In addition to younger children's materials:

- **Preschoolers/Kindergarteners:** Dress-up clothes (male/female), wider array of cooking/eating utensils, types of food, household furnishings

In addition to preschool/kindergarten materials:

- **School-agers:** Theater materials/props, figures/ accessories with interlocking blocks, Fashion dolls, Action figures