

Learning Environment Checklist

Characteristic	Yes	No	Comments
<p>The Physical Environment</p> <p>Is there a place for quiet and noisy activities to go on at the same time?</p> <p>Are a variety of materials available and easy for children to obtain?</p> <p>Is it clear where each type of material may be used?</p> <p>Can children choose to use material alone or in groups?</p> <p>Are children allowed time to explore, experiment, and discover?</p> <p>Do the adults observe carefully, intervening to expand an activity by providing additional material or providing some scaffolding by making a suggestion, asking a question, or helping to settle a dispute as necessary?</p>			
<p>The Interpersonal Environment</p> <p>Is there a feeling of mutual respect between adults and adults, adults and children, and children and children?</p> <p>Do the adults spend more time observing and interacting with the children than setting limits?</p> <p>Do the adults have specific objectives for each child's learning?</p> <p>Is cooperation rather than competition reinforced?</p> <p>Do the adults model the kind of behavior they want the children to learn?</p> <p>Do the adults give ample appropriate positive reinforcement and encouragement?</p>			
<p>Activities</p> <p>_____ art materials</p> <p>_____ writing materials</p> <p>_____ musical instruments</p> <p>_____ record or CD player</p> <p>_____ computer(s)</p> <p>_____ book center</p> <p>_____ puzzles and games</p> <p>_____ math manipulatives</p> <p>_____ hands-on science materials</p> <p>_____ construction toys (e.g., Legos®)</p> <p>_____ blocks and accessories</p> <p>_____ dramatic play area with props</p> <p>Are there opportunities for field trips?</p> <p>Are there materials of different difficulty levels?</p> <p>Do the children do some of the planning?</p> <p>Do the teachers pick up on the children's interests?</p> <p>Are parents invited to share their talents in the classroom and/or assist with activities?</p>			