



# Environment Rating Scale 3rd Edition

FAQ

## What is the Environment Rating Scale 3rd Edition?

The Environment Rating Scales 3rd edition are a suite of assessment tools designed to provide data to early learning programs that can be used to enhance program quality. The tools are based on the premise that all children have three basic needs; protection of their health and safety, positive relationships, and opportunities for learning from experience.

## What are the age ranges for the Environment Rating Scale 3rd Edition tools?

- Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale 3rd Edition (ITERS-3): **0-36 months**
- Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale 3rd Edition (ECERS-3): **36 months-5 years**
- Family Childcare Environment Rating Scale 3rd Edition (FCCERS-3): **0-5 years**

## What is the difference between the Environment Rating Scales Revised Edition and 3rd Edition?

1. The revised edition tools have a strong focus on the materials in the environment while the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition tools focus on how educators use the environment to support relationships and learning.
2. The revised edition tools provide limited data about the health and safety supports programs have in place while the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition tools provide more information through enhanced scaling of indicators.
3. The revised edition tools require a teacher interview and the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition tools do not.
4. The revised edition tools provided limited information about math, language, and literacy while the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition tools have enhanced indicators in these areas that provide more information for programs.



### What are the components of the Environment Rating Scales 3<sup>rd</sup> edition tools?

The Environment Rating Scale 3rd edition tools have six subscales including:

1. Space and furnishings
2. Personal Care Routines
3. Language and Literacy
4. Learning Activities
5. Interactions
6. Program Structure



### What happens during an ERS-3 observation?

- The ERS-3 observation will last for 3 hours.
- Data collectors will ask the educator a few questions before beginning the observation such as how many children are enrolled and what their ages are.
- During the observation the data collector will not interact with the teacher or the children, so they do not disrupt the flow of the day any more than necessary.
- During the observation data collectors will:
  - Closely observe handwashing and other routine care such as diapering
  - Review materials that are accessible to children
  - Closely observe interactions between teachers and children
  - Take notes on their tablet computer
  - Observe all spaces accessible to children
- There may be two data collectors in the classroom/session, this is a reliability check for the data collector. A reliability check is a check on the data collector's process designed to ensure data collectors are following all procedures and scoring accurately.



### When will I receive the data from my ERS-3 observation?

A detailed report will be available in the data system on the date that the rating is published.



### What if I have more questions?

- Contact your coach
- Email Cultivate Learning [cqel@uw.edu](mailto:cqel@uw.edu)
- Visit [ersi.info](http://ersi.info)