



## How Learning Environments are Selected for Observation

### ? What is considered a classroom?

Classrooms refer to the physical rooms at an early learning program.

### ? What is a session?

In most programs sessions and classrooms are the same. For example, in some programs, there are am/pm sessions with different teachers and children. If the teachers and children are different in the morning than the afternoon, then you have two sessions in one classroom.

### ? How are sessions selected for Environment Rating Scale, Third Edition (ERS-3) assessments?

Sessions are placed into one of three age groups.

Child care centers:

Infant (ITERS-3): 0-12 months

Toddler (ITERS-3): 12 months-36 months

Preschool (ECERS-3): 36 months-5 years

Family child care:

All family child care programs receive the Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (FCCERS-3).

One third of sessions in each age group will receive ERS-3 and records review. Records review only takes place for those programs that request it. See below for specifics:

#### **SITES WITH ONE SESSION** (per age group)

Sites with one session will receive ERS-3, and records review (if applicable).

#### **SITES WITH MULTIPLE SESSIONS** (per age group)

Programs that have multiple sessions of one age group will be randomly sampled; one third will receive ERS-3 assessments and records review (if applicable).

The remaining, two thirds of the sessions of that age group, will receive the ERS-3i (The ERS-3i

# Environment Rating Scale 3rd Edition

## FAQ

protocol is a one-hour observation that uses a subset of the ERS-3 indicators). *ERS-3i data is provided for coaching purposes and is not included in the rating at this time.*

Assessments are selected based on the ages of the children enrolled in a session on the day of data collection. When sessions have children that span the age ranges of multiple measures the measure is selected based on the age group that has the most children enrolled in that session (e.g., for a session with 4 children in the ITERS-3 age range and 5 children in the ECERS-3 age range, ECERS-3 will be conducted).

### **What if I have questions about which assessments will be conducted at my program?**

Contact your community liaison or email Cultivate Learning at [cqel@uw.edu](mailto:cqel@uw.edu)