

Infant/Toddler Environment Checklist

Infant Toddler Environment Rating Scale (ITERS) Item	Notes/ Changes to be made
Space and Furnishings	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adequate lighting, temperature control, and sound-absorbing materials	
<input type="checkbox"/> Good ventilation, some natural lighting through windows or skylight	
<input type="checkbox"/> Space is in good repair	
<input type="checkbox"/> Space is reasonably clean and well-maintained	
<input type="checkbox"/> Space for children is accessible to children and adults with disabilities	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ample indoor space for children, adults, and furnishings	
Furniture for routine care and play	
<input type="checkbox"/> High chairs rather than group feeding table for infants or young toddlers	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cots/mats are easy for adults to access	
<input type="checkbox"/> Diapers/diapering supplies near diapering table	
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual storage of children's possessions	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cubbies placed for easy use by parents, staff, and older toddlers	
<input type="checkbox"/> Child-sized table(s) and chairs used with toddlers	
<input type="checkbox"/> Furniture promotes self-help as children are ready (steps near sink, changing table, and low-open shelves accessible to children)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Convenient organized storage for extra toys	
<input type="checkbox"/> Comfortable adult seating for working with children	
Provision for relaxation and comfort	
<input type="checkbox"/> Special "cozy area" with soft furnishings is accessible for much of the day, and softness is accessible in several other areas	
<input type="checkbox"/> "Cozy area" protected from active play and is used for reading or other quiet play	
<input type="checkbox"/> Many soft toys accessible much of the day	
Room arrangement	
Routine care areas are conveniently arranged: <input type="checkbox"/> cribs/cots placed for easy access <input type="checkbox"/> diapering supplies within hand's reach of changing table	

Infant/Toddler Environment Checklist

<input type="checkbox"/> warm running water available where needed <input type="checkbox"/> feeding tables on easy-to-clean floor	
<input type="checkbox"/> Arrangement of room makes it possible for staff to see all children at a glance	
<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic patterns do not interfere with activities	
<input type="checkbox"/> Areas for quiet and active play are separated	
<input type="checkbox"/> Toys are stored for easy access by children	
Suitable space is provided for different kinds of experiences: <input type="checkbox"/> large open space for active play <input type="checkbox"/> small cozy space for books or quiet play	
<input type="checkbox"/> Materials with similar use are placed together to make interest areas (ex: book area, table toys, block area, dramatic play, etc.)	
Display for children	
<input type="checkbox"/> Many colorful, simple pictures, posters, and/or photographs displayed throughout the room	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pictures showing diversity (people of different races, cultures, ages, abilities, and gender in non-stereotyping roles)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mobiles and/or other colorful hanging objects for children to look at	
<input type="checkbox"/> Many items displayed where children can easily see them, some within easy reach	
<input type="checkbox"/> Photographs of children in the group, their families, pets, or other familiar faces displayed on child's eye level	
<input type="checkbox"/> New materials added or display changed at least monthly	
<input type="checkbox"/> Art work done by toddlers displayed	
Book center	
A wide selection of books (at least 12 appropriate infant/toddler books) accessible daily for much of the day. Topics should include: <input type="checkbox"/> people of varying races, ages and abilities <input type="checkbox"/> animals	

Infant/Toddler Environment Checklist

<input type="checkbox"/> familiar objects and familiar routines	
<input type="checkbox"/> Book areas are set up for toddlers to use independently	
<input type="checkbox"/> Books are added or changed to maintain interest	
Fine Motor	
Many appropriate fine motor materials available: Infants-	
<input type="checkbox"/> grasping toys <input type="checkbox"/> busy boxes <input type="checkbox"/> textured toys <input type="checkbox"/> cradle gyms <input type="checkbox"/> containers to fill and dump <input type="checkbox"/> nested cups	
Toddlers-	
<input type="checkbox"/> stacking rings <input type="checkbox"/> big pegs with peg boards <input type="checkbox"/> nesting toys <input type="checkbox"/> shape sorting games <input type="checkbox"/> simple puzzles <input type="checkbox"/> pop beads <input type="checkbox"/> large stringing beads <input type="checkbox"/> interlocking blocks <input type="checkbox"/> crayons	
<input type="checkbox"/> Materials well-organized (similar toys stored together; sets of toys in separate containers)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Materials of different levels of difficulty available	
Active Physical Play	
<input type="checkbox"/> Open space provided indoors for active physical play much of the day	
<input type="checkbox"/> Easily accessible outdoor area where infants/toddlers are separated from older children is used at least 1 hour daily	
<input type="checkbox"/> Large active play area that is not crowded or cluttered	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ample materials and equipment for physical activity so children have access without long periods of waiting	
<input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor space has 2 or more types of surfaces permitting different types of play (grass, outdoor carpet, decking, etc)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor area has some protection from the elements (shade in summer, sun in winter)	

Infant/Toddler Environment Checklist

Materials used daily stimulate a variety of gross motor skills: Infants- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> outdoor pad or blanket <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> sturdy things to pull up on <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> crib gym, <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> ramps for crawling <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> small push toys balls 	
Toddlers- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> riding toys without pedals <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> large push-pull wheel toys, <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> balls <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> cushions or rugs for tumbling, <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> tunnels <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> large cardboard boxes 	
Art	
All art materials used with children are non-toxic, safe, and appropriate	
A variety of materials are introduced as children are ready: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> brush and finger paints <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> water color markers <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> jumbo crayons <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> play dough <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> collage materials of different textures 	
Music and movement	
<input type="checkbox"/> Many (at least 10) pleasant sounding musical toys and/ or instruments accessible daily, for much of the day	
Blocks (for toddlers 12 months and older)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blocks and accessories sorted by type	
<input type="checkbox"/> Space used for toddler’s block play is out of traffic and has a steady surface	
<input type="checkbox"/> At least 3 set of different types of blocks (10 or more blocks per set) accessible daily for much of the day	
<input type="checkbox"/> Variety of accessories- transportation toys, people, animals	
Dramatic play	
Many and varied dramatic play materials accessible daily:	
Infants- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> dolls and soft animals <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> pots and pans <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> toy telephones 	
Toddlers- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> dress-up clothes <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> child-sized house furniture <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> toy telephones <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> post and pans, dishes, spoons; play foods <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> dolls <li style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> doll furnishings 	

Infant/Toddler Environment Checklist

<input type="checkbox"/> soft animals	<input type="checkbox"/> small play buildings with accessories	
Sand and water play (for toddlers 18 months and older)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sand or water play provided regularly (daily or at least once a week)		
Variety of toys used for play:		
<input type="checkbox"/> kitchen utensils	<input type="checkbox"/> shovel and bucket	<input type="checkbox"/> small cars and trucks
<input type="checkbox"/> floating toys	<input type="checkbox"/> plastic containers	
Nature/science		
<input type="checkbox"/> Some pictures, books, or toys that represent nature realistically; all are developmentally appropriate		
<input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor experiences with nature provided at least 2 times a week		
<input type="checkbox"/> Some daily experiences with living plants or animals indoors		
Promoting acceptance of diversity		
<input type="checkbox"/> Many books, pictures, and materials showing diversity (people of different races, cultures, ages, abilities, and gender in non-stereotyping roles)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Dolls representing at least 3 different races accessible		
Safety practices (indoor)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Protective covers on electrical outlets; all electrical cords are kept out of reach of children		
<input type="checkbox"/> Heavy objects or furniture placed so that children cannot pull them down		
<input type="checkbox"/> Medicines, cleaning materials, pesticides, aerosols, and substances labeled “keep out of reach of children” are locked away		
<input type="checkbox"/> Bleach solution used only when children cannot inhale the spray		
<input type="checkbox"/> Walkers or bean bag chairs are not used for infants		
<input type="checkbox"/> Hot water temperature set to 120 degrees F or less in children’s restrooms		
<input type="checkbox"/> Thumbtacks and/or staples are out of children’s reach		
<input type="checkbox"/> Crib/playpen slats or more than 2 ³ / ₈ inches apart		
<input type="checkbox"/> Mats/rugs do not slide or present tripping hazards		
<input type="checkbox"/> Open stairwells are not accessible		
<input type="checkbox"/> There are no choking hazards (objects less than 1 ¼ inch diameter and 2 ½ inches long, or spheres less than 1 ¾ inches in diameter)		

Infant/Toddler Environment Checklist

<input type="checkbox"/>	Changing table has a 6-inch raised edge	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crib mattress fits snugly in crib (there is less than 1 inch of space between it and the crib side)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	There are no toys hung across the crib of a child who can sit up or get to his/her hands and knees to hang him/herself	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Babies are put to sleep on stomach or side instead of on their back	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cribs are easy to raise and lower the side and provide at least 20 inches from the top of the mattress to the top of the crib rail	
<input type="checkbox"/>	There are no styrofoam objects, plastic bags, or latex balloons accessible to children	
<input type="checkbox"/>	There is no (unsupervised) access to any container of water (toilets, 5-gallon buckets, wading pool, or fountain)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	All furnishings are able to withstand an infant pulling up on it without toppling, shaking, or collapsing	
Safety practices (outdoor)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Play area is contained by fence or other barrier that prevents children from leaving the designated safe area	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tools (hammers, nails, screwdrivers, etc...) are not accessible	
<input type="checkbox"/>	All dangerous substances are locked away	
<input type="checkbox"/>	There are no sharp or dangerous objects present	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Walkways and stairs are safe for the age and development of children, or there are barriers preventing access by children	
<input type="checkbox"/>	There are barriers preventing access to road or driveways	
<input type="checkbox"/>	All play equipment is appropriate for the age of children using the play space (no more than 1 foot per year of age above fall surface)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Play equipment poses no threat of head entrapment, finger entrapment, injury from pinch-points, or projections	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fall zones under play equipment has sufficient cushioning	