

**WHAT TO EXPECT:**

ENVIRONMENT RATING SCALE

VISIT

We are required by our funder, the California Department of Education, to annually access classrooms using the Environment Rating Scale (ERS) Revised Edition. This reference sheet was designed to help educators understand what to expect.

**PREPERATION FOR THE VISIT:**

* Assessor will schedule a time/date for the assessment
* Review and set-up your classroom environment using the ERS tool
* Pay close attention to the terms and notes for clarification
* Each item in the ERS tool will be scored. When scoring, remember that each section builds onto the next. The assessor will start with 1 and work their way up the scale. One of the most common errors when people prepare for the ERS is to jump to 5 or 6. If 1, 2 or 3 are not met, then the score stops.
* It is not realistic to score 7 across all items
* The **goal is to have a minimum score of 5 within each subscale**. To determine the subscale average, add the subscale items together and divide the total by the number of items scored

**WHAT TO EXPECT DURING THE VISIT:**

* Assessor will be observing the environment for 3 to 3 ½ hours
* During the observation, the assessor is not allowed to interact with the teacher or children
* The Assessor needs to observe what a typical day looks like
* You will not receive the results on the actual assessment day

**WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER THE VISIT:**

* The Assessor will schedule a time to review the ERS results with you
* In collaboration with the Master Teacher, action steps will be developed for any subscales scored below a Good (5) rating. The plan will be recorded on the Summary of Findings form
* Follow-up and reflection will be conducted as stated on the Year at a Glance calendar