

ECERS-R Materials Checklist¹

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¹ This guide is to assist you only in preparing your learning centers. The materials identified in this document are **NOT** the only materials that can be counted toward these items/indicators. This list is meant only to identify the kinds of materials that count toward specific categories. For more information and clarification on classroom environment, refer to your *All About The ECERS-R* guide.

#3 Furnishings for relaxation and comfort								
Soft furnishings Soft toys Indicator Criteria								
 Wall-to-wall carpeting Rugs Mats Soft couches or chairs (upholstered or beanbag) 	 Mattresses Futons Cushions Other 	 Cloth puppets Dolls with soft bodies Soft stuffed animals (any size) 	 3.5.1: Cozy area that has substantial softness where children can lounge, daydream, read, or play quietly. 3.7.1: Cozy area PLUS at least 2 additional soft furnishings 3.7.2: Many clean, soft toys (10 for all 4 year olds, plus 2 for each three-year-old) 					

#15 Books and pictures								
15.5.2: Requires that there are at least 2 additional language materials available during center time (See AAE p. 152)	 Flannel board stories Picture card games Recorded stories and songs 	 Posters and pictures (to receive credit for posters/pictures, they must be used by staff to promote language learning) Other 						

	Categories of Books Associated with ECERS-R Items									
#15 (Books)	sity) #28 (Diversity) #2									
Fantasy (pretend stories about people and animals)	Factual Information (books with pictures of real animals, facts about real life of animals and plants, or other real life experiences)	Nature and Science (such as how the five senses work, the human body, houses of different animals)	Different Races & Cultures (e.g., historical and contemporary stories about people from different races and cultures; books in other languages)	Different Abilities (e.g., individuals with disabilities and how they might use aids such as eyeglasses, a hearing aid, a wheelchair or crutches)	Different Ages (e.g., children, parents, grandparents)	Gender in Non- Stereotyping Roles (e.g., men and women shown doing different types of work including traditional and non-traditional roles)	Math (e.g., counting, measuring, quantity, shapes, written numbers)			

NOTE: In some cases, one book might be representative of more than one category. For example, an illustrated book about how the body works might also show people of different races in the illustrations. Give credit for each category the book represents (AAE, p. 150). Also see page 8 of this handout for more information about the book requirement for Item #28 (Diversity).

ECERS-R Item #15 requires 3-5 books in EACH of the following categories: Fantasy, Factual Information, Nature/Science, Race/Culture, and Different Abilities.

RECOMMENDATION: Mark books that you have selected specifically to meet specific ECERS-R book categories (e.g., put a colored dot on front of book). When you rotate books, if you remove a book with a colored dot, make sure you replace that book with a similar book that fits the same category (e.g., race, cultural, etc.).

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#19 Fine Motor (19.5.1 requires at least 3 examples of each category)						
Small Building Toys	Art	Manipulatives	Puzzles			
Bristle blocks	Crayons	Gears	Given Floor puzzles			
Duplos	□ Fabric scraps	Lacing beads	□ Frame puzzles			
Legos	Glue sticks	Lacing cards	Knobbed Puzzles			
Lincoln Logs	□ Markers	□ Links	 Knobbed puzzles with large 			
Magnetic blocks	Paints	Mr. Potato Head	knobs			
□ Small blocks (inch cubes)	D Paper	Nuts & bolts	 Knobbed puzzles with small 			
□ Tinker toys	Pencils	Pattern blocks (parquet shapes)	knobs			
□ Other (list)	Playdough	Pegs with peg boards	• Other (list)			
	□ Rulers	Pop beads				
	□ Scissors	Snap blocks				
		Train tracks				
	□ Tools (hole punches, scissors, etc.)	□ Zip, snap, button toys/vests				
	□ Yarn	□ Other (list)				
	□ Other (list)					
Fine Motor Shelving appropriately labele	d: 🛛 All 🖾 Most 🖾 Few/None Is shelving cr	owded? Yes NO Containers Approp	riately Labeled 🛛 All 🖾 Most 🖾 Few/None			
NOTE: Fine motor materials do NOT have	e to be in a fine motor only learning center; ins	stead, they may be found in several differer	nt learning centers (e.g., math).			

#20 Art (20.5.1 requires 3-5 examples in at least 4 of the 5 art categories; drawing materials are required)								
Drawing (required) Paints		3-D	Collage	Tools				
 Chalk Chalk boards Crayons Dry erase boards Markers Paper Pencils Pens Other (list) 	 Fingerpaints Tempera paints Watercolor paints Other (list) 	 Clay Modeling compound Pipe cleaners Playdough Wood Styrofoam "Junk" (e.g., cardboard tubes, paper boxes, packing material, etc. – only counts for 3D material IF used to create 3D art) NOTE: Gluing small 3D materials such as styrofoam chips to a flat surface does not count as 3D work, unless the work is built up substantially, away from the base surface (AAE, p. 206); 	 Buttons Cardboard tubes Cotton balls Egg cartons Feathers Felt scraps Glitter Magazines Paper Paste Pom-poms Sequins Yarn/string 	 BINGO/Dot markers Brushes Hole punches Playdough tools Rollers Ruler Scissors Sponge painters Stamps/stamp pad Stapler Stencils Tape Other (list) 				
Art Shelving appropriately labeled	Art Shelving appropriately labeled: □All □Most □Few/None Is shelving crowded? □Yes □NO Containers Appropriately Labeled □All □Most □Few/None							

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	ical instruments for at least half of the children to use at d player – that children can operate themselves) and dance	Types of Music (21.5.2 requires 3 types of music used with children on regular basis)
 Bells Castanets Cymbals Drums Electric keyboard Hardwood blocks with mallet Maracas Piano Rainstick Rhythm sticks Shakers Tambourine Triangles Wrist bells Xylophones Other (list) 	 CD/Tape Player that children can use to listen to music Dance props (e.g., scarves) 	 Children's songs Classical Country Cultural music (from different countires) Folk songs Instrumental Jazz Lullabies Music in different languages Popular Rap Reggae Rhythm & blues Rock Other (list)
Music Shelving appropriately labeled: All M #22 Blocks	ost	ntainers Appropriately Labeled 🛛 All 🖾 Most 🖵 Few/None
 Types of Blocks - 22.7.1 requires at least 2 different types of blocks. - 22.7.3 requires some blocks available outside (cannot be interlocking blocks) 	Block Accessories – There are 3 types of accessories required for this item (animals, people, transportation), although there can also other types	Other Materials Currently in Your Bloc Area
 Cardboard blocks Homemade blocks Large wooden hollow blocks Wood unit blocks Foam unit Blocks Other (list) **Interlocking blocks (e.g., Legos) do NOT count as blocks 	 Animals (e.g., zoo animals, farm animals) People Transportation (e.g., road signs, vehicles, trains) Other (list) - 22.3.1, 22.3.5 requires 1 type of accessory - 22.5.1 requires 2 types of accessories; 22.5.2 requires 2 types of accessories be stored separately - 22.7.1 requires all 3 types of accessories 	NOTE: There should be no interlocking blocks (e.g., Duplos) or other materials (e.g., Fischer Price barns, do houses) in the block area that would detract or get in th way of children building structures with blocks. Measurement tools such as rulers, tape measures and limited amount of carpentry related dramatic play items (e.g., hard hat, tools) are acceptable if the block area is fairly large and these materials are used to enhance block play.

Sand/Water Toys (things to measure, dig, sco	p, pour, fill, empty, experiment with)
Buckets	Scoops
Funnels	□ Shovels
Measuring cups/spoons	□ Sifters/Sieve
□ Pails	Spray bottles
Plastic tubes	□ Sponge
Pipes	□ Things that sink/float
Pumps to experiment with	Turkey baster
□ Rakes	□ Trowels
Sand molds	Unbreakable Containers (e.g., plastic bowls)
□ Sand/water wheels	□ Other (list)
• Other (list)	

See Item #24 Dramatic Play on page 6

See Item #25 Nature/Science on page 7

#	#26 Math/Number (26.5.1 requires 3-5 examples of each category)								
Counting		Written Numbers		Measuring		Comparing Quantities		Sł	nape
	Money		Calendar		Balance scale with things		Abacus		Attribute blocks
	Pegboards with numbers		Cash register with money		to weigh		Class charts/graphs		Geoboards & pegs
	printed and holes to match		Clock		Bathroom scale		Dice		Magnetic shapes
	Puzzles, toys, games		Magnetic numbers		Foot size measurer		Dominoes		Pattern blocks
	(where quantities of		Number bingo/lotto		Height chart		Five//Ten Frame Cards		Posters (shape)
	objects are matched to		Number lacing cards		Measuring cups		Graduated cylinders		Puzzles (shape)
	written number)		Number puzzles		Measuring spoons		Graduated puzzles		Shape sorting peg board
	Teddy bears or other		Number books & posters		Rulers		Math links		Unit blocks
	small objects to count		Playing cards		Tape measures		Nested cups/dolls		Other (list)
	Wall cards		Telephone		Thermometer		Playing cards		
	Other (list)		Other (list)		Yardsticks		Unifix cubes		
					Other (list)		Other (list)		
Ma	Math Shelving appropriately labeled: All Most Few/None Is shelving crowded? Yes NO Containers Appropriately Labeled All Most Few/None								

NOTE: Math materials do NOT have to be in a math only learning center; instead, they may be found in several different learning centers (e.g., fine motor, sand/water, dramatic play, etc.).

#24 Dramatic Play (24.5.3 requires props for at least 2 different themes (must be enough props for each theme to allow meaningful play). NOTE: Housekeeping theme is required PLUS one other theme (e.g., work related theme, fantasy theme, OR leisure theme).

materials that support one of the bullets	NOTE: The bulleted list below are EXAMPLI of these. You need a substantial amount of	below (plus housekeeping)	Gender-Specific Dress Up Clothes	Props that Reflect Diversity
 to act out make-believe stories and to pretend to be characters from books, movies or TV programs. Costumes, including hats, capes, fancy dress-ups, crown, magic wands or other accessories Simple, non-frightening masks or face paint, non-frightening Halloween costumes Things to act out familiar stories ty food to act out make-believe stories and to pretend to be characters from books, movies or TV programs. 	Inildren Theme: Different Kinds of Work e.g., id to know know Airplane (uniforms, tickets, trays, row chairs, etc.) Bus (uniforms, tickets, trays, rows or chairs, etc.) Construction (hats, shovels, tools, etc.) Farmer/gardener (rakes, shoves, see packets, pumpkins, etc.) Firefighter (hose, uniform, buckets, helmet, boots, etc.) Medical (gauze bandages, doctor's dolls, etc.) es Office play (office supplies, desk, briefcase, etc.) Post office (mail box, envelopes, po cards, mailbag/purse, jacket, hat, et Restaurant (tables & chairs, menus, money, aprons, etc.) Store (cash register, play food, emp cartons, bags, pretend money, etc.) Train (uniforms, tickets, trays, rows or chairs, etc.) Other (list)	Theme: Leisure These props allow children to act out things people do during vacations, holidays, weekends or after work. Boating Camping Camping Parties (e.g., birthday party) Picnicking Sports Bird-watching Vacations to different places (e.g., beach, zoo)	 24.5.1 requires at least 2 male-specific props and at least 2 female-specific props. These props are important because children are developing gender role identity during preschool years. Male Hats Suit jacket Men's shirts Shoes Ties Wallet Other (list) Female Blouses Dresses Hats Scarves Shoes Shoes Shoes Fermale Blouses Dresses Hats Carves Shoes Shoes Shoes Carves Shoes Shoes Stirts Other (list) 	 24.7.1 requires at least 2 examples of dramatic play props that reflect diversity. These props help children learn that different cultures eat different foods, use different types of cooking utensils, weat different clothing, etc. Cultural cooking utensils (e.g., wok, etc.) Dolls (different races, cultures, abilities, ages, and/or gender) Multi-cultural dress-up clothes Pretend food (e.g., taco, spaghetti, sushi, etc.) Puppets representing different cultures Other (list)
4.7.3 requires props for activ	Outdoor Dramatic Play Props (2	e dramatic play outdoo	rs)	
vith furniture, dolls or other props	ople or things to transport		Riding toys that look like cars	with a gas station/gas pump
r shopping carts with dolls or stuffed	Is with wheel barrows	d animals to transport	Big pieces of equipment shap to transport, conductor hats, c	
r different jobs (painter, fire fighter, l	or baby dolls to bathe	bus driver, etc.)	Other (list)	
ers o es fo	Is with wheel barrows	ers or shopping carts with dolls or stuffed	ers or shopping carts with dolls or stuffed animals to transport es for different jobs (painter, fire fighter, bus driver, etc.)	ers or shopping carts with dolls or stuffed animals to transport

Collections of Natural Objects	Living Things	Nature/Science Books, Games, Toys	Nature/Science Activities		
 Birds' nests Different types of wood Insects Leaves Nuts Pinecones Rocks Seashells Seed pods Wood Other (list) 	 Ant farm Aquarium with fish, snails or other animals Butterfly hatching kit Class pet Eggs that hatch Plants Window bird feeder Worm farm Other (list) 	 Books Board games Matching game (e.g., body parts) Plastic animals (realistic, these can be located in other areas such as the block area) Puzzles with nature pictures or natural sequences (e.g., caterpillar to butterfly) Videos Other (list) 	 Binoculars/Viewers Color paddles Completing a weather chart, after checking the weather outside Cooking foods that change when mixed, cooled, cooked Lifting objects with levers/pulleys Magnets & magnetic/non-magnetic things Magnifying glasses Microscope and slides to look at Planting seeds and/or a garden Sensory bottles Shaking cans with different substances to match/compare sounds Sink/float activity Smelling cans with different things (e.g., spices) Tasting activity (e.g., comparing sweet, sour, bitter, salty) Using a rain gauge to record how much rain fell Other (list) 		

#28 Diversity Materials Checklist

28.5.1: There should be many books (at least 3-5), many pictures/posters (at least 3-5) and other materials (at least 3-5) that reflect diversity. And **ALL** categories of diversity must be included to some degree (race, culture, age, ability, and gender).

Categories of Diversity	Books	Pictures & Posters (NOTE: Pictures of children and their families do not count for this item)	Other Materials (e.g., dolls, puppets, play food, cultural cooking utensils, small people figurines, wheelchair for dolls, dress-up clothes, play money from different cultures, fabric/blankets from different cultures, real equipment used by people with disabilities, etc.)
Races			
Cultures (traditions of different groups such as holidays, foods, clothes; how different groups live and do things; books in other languages)			
Ages (e.g., children, parents, grandparents)			
People with differing abilities (e.g., individuals with disabilities and how they might use aids such as eyeglasses, a hearing aid, a wheelchair or crutches)			
Gender in non- stereotypical roles (e.g., men and women shown doing different types of work including traditional and non-traditional roles)			

Item #8: Gross Motor Equipment²

Gross Motor Equipment (8.3.1, 8.5.1)	8.5.2: Equipment stimulates a variety of skills (7-9 skills)
Basketball goal (child-sized)	Throwing
Balance beam (substitute: 2x4 board)	Balancing
Balance board	Balancing
Balls	Throwing, Catching, Kicking, Rolling (depends on how children allowed to use)
Bean bags (and targets and/or buckets or other containers; substitute: sock with beans)	Tossing, Catching
Bowling (substitute: 2 liter bottles with sand)	Rolling
Climber - Steps	Climbing
Climber - Rock Wall	Rock Wall Climbing
Hopskotch mat (substitute: drawn on floor using paint, tape)	Hopping
Horseshoes	Tossing
Hula hoop	Hula hooping, Jumping (in and out of hoops)
Jump rope	Jumping
Obstacle course	Crawling
Parachute (substitute: sheet)	Tossing
Potato sack (substitute: pillow case)	Hopping
Ring toss	Tossing
Scarves & recorded music	Dancing
Scooter	Scooting, Pulling/Pushing (depends on scooter)
Slide	Sliding
Spring rocker	Rocking
Steps/Bridge/Boat	Climbing/Rocking
Stilt cans (substitute: homemade stilts)	Balancing
Swing	Swinging
Traffic cones	Jump (over)
Trampoline – NOT RECOMMENDED	
Tumbling mat	Somersault
Tunnel	Crawling
Wagon	Push, Pull
Wheeled toys (e.g., trikes)	Pedaling, Steering

8.7.2: Gross motor equipment that stimulates skills on different levels.

Easiest way to achieve this is to provide different size/types of balls. Other types of equipment that stimulates skills on different levels includes:

- Different types of wheeled vehicles (e.g., with and without pedals)
- Different ways to climb onto a play structure (e.g., steps, ramps, cargo net, ladder, rock wall)
- Basketball hoops of differing heights
- Lightweight baseball bats of different sizes
- Balance beams of varying widths or heights OR different types of balancing activities (e.g., balance beam and balance boards)
- Other

 $^{^{2}}$ This list is meant to give you an idea of the kinds of equipment that will count for item #8 and the skills they support. This is not an all-inclusive list and does not include all gross motor equipment that could count for item #8.