

ECERS-R Interview Questions

Item 4:

A. Are there any additional materials available that you add to the interest centers? (7.3)

Center	Description of Additional Materials	How often are materials rotated?
• Books		
• Fine Motor		
• Dramatic Play		
• Math/number		

Item 5:

A. Do you ever set up activities for just one or two children, away from the activities for the rest of the children (7.2)?

B. If yes, ask: Can you provide me a few examples? (7.2)

Item 6:

A. Can you tell me what you've been doing/studying over the past month? (5.1)

Item 7:

A. Is there any indoor space that you use for gross motor play, especially in bad weather? (5.1)

Item 8:

A. What types of gross motor activities and/or equipment do you use indoors during bad weather or when you do not use the outdoor play space (3.1)?

B. How long do children participate in these activities (3.1)?

Item 9 (Only ask if arrival AND/OR departure not observed):

A. Can you describe what happens each day when children arrive in the classroom?

B. What do children do until they're picked up?

Item 10 (Ask if no evidence present that allergies or dietary restrictions are observed):

A. Do any children in your program have food allergies?

- **IF YES**, what do you do if children have food allergies or families have dietary restrictions? (1.5, 3.5, 5.4)

Item 11:

If naptime not observed:

- A. Could you describe how nap or rest is handled?
- B. How is supervision handled during nap time? (3.3)
- C. What do you do if children are tired before nap time, have trouble settling down, or wake up early? (3.4, 7.2)
- D. How far apart are cots or mats placed? (5.3)

Item 13:

- A. Do you have any health requirements for children and staff? (3.4)
- B. How do you ensure that children have the necessary immunizations? (3.4)
- C. Do you have rules about excluding children with contagious illnesses? If so, please describe. (3.4)
- D. Is staff required to have TB tests? (3.4) If so, how often?
- E. Do children brush their teeth? How is this handled? (*Ask to see toothbrushes*) (7.2)

Item 15:

- A. Do you use books that relate to current themes/curriculum with the children? (7.2)
 - Please give some examples: (7.2)

Only ask if books with frightening content or graphic violence are observed accessible to children.

- B. I see that you have (NAME BOOKS). How do you introduce books with frightening or violent images to children? (5.4)

Item 16:

Only ask if art with dictation not observed.

- A. Do you do anything to help children see that what they say can be written down and read by others? (7.2)
 - Please give some examples. (7.2)

Item 19:

- A. When are the manipulatives and other fine motor materials accessible for children to use? (5.1)

Item 20:

- A. How often do children do individualized artwork?(5.2)
- B. Are three-dimensional art materials such as clay or wood for gluing, ever used? If so, how often? (7.1)
- C. Do you offer art activities that relate to other classroom experiences?
 - **If so, please give some examples:**
- D. Do you offer art activities that children can work on over several days? Please describe some examples. (7.3)

Item 21:

- A. How do you handle music with the children?

- B. How often do you do music activities with the children? (3.2)
- C. Do children ever do movement or dance activities? (3.3)
- D. How often are movement and dance activities provided? (3.3)
- E. What kinds of music do you use with the children? (5.2)
- F. Do you ever do special music activities that extend children's understanding of music? (7.2)
 - How often?
 - Please give some examples:
- G. Are there any opportunities for children to do music activities in their own way? (7.3)

Item 22:

- A. How often is block play available? About how long are the blocks available for play? (3.3)
- B. Do the children play with blocks outdoors? (7.3)

Item 23:

- A. Do you use sand or water with the children?
 - How is this handled?
 - About how often?
 - Where is this available? (3.1)
- B. Are there any toys for children to use with sand or water play? Please describe them. (3.2)
- B. Do you change the activities children do with sand and water? Please give examples. (7.2)

Item 24:

- A. Are props for dramatic play ever used outside or in a larger indoor space? (7.3)
- B. In order to extend children's dramatic play, do you: (7.4)
 1. Use trips or special visitors (e.x., firefighter, librarian, waiter)?
 - a. Please give examples:
 - b. How often?
 2. Use pictures?
 3. Use stories?

Item 25:

- A. Do children bring in nature or science things to share? How do you handle this? (3.3)
- B. Can you give me some examples of nature/science activities you do with the children in addition to what I've seen? (7.1)
 - About how often are these activities done? (7.1)
- C. Do you use nature/science books or AV materials with the children to reinforce current science themes? Please describe. (7.2)

Item 26:

- A. Could you give me some examples of math activities you do with the children in addition to what I've seen? (7.1)
 - How often are these done?

Item 27:

- A.** Are TV, video or computers used with the children? How are they used?
- B.** How do you choose the TV, video or computer materials to use with the children? (1.1, 3.1, 5.1, 7.1)
- C.** Is staff familiar with the content of materials before allowing use in the program? (1.1, 3.1, 5.1, 7.1)
- D.** Are requirements for appropriateness considered before showing materials brought from home? (1.1, 3.1, 5.1, 7.1)
- E.** Are other activities available to children while TV or videos are used? (1.2, 3.2)
- F.** How often are TV, video or computers used with children? For what length of times are these available? (3.3)
- G.** Do any of the materials encourage active involvement by the children? (5.3) Please give some examples.
- H.** Do you use TV, video or computer related topics or themes in the classroom? (7.2) Please explain.

Item 28:

- A.** Could you give me examples of the types of music you use with the children? (3.1)
- B.** What do you do if a child or adult shows prejudice? (3.3)
- C.** Are any activities used to help children understand the variety of people in our country and in the world?
- Please give some examples. (7.2)

Item 29:

A. If outdoor play not observed:

1. Could you describe how staff supervise children during gross motor activities and outdoor play?
2. What happens when children have difficulty using equipment? (5.3)

Item 31:

A. If unsure whether or not strict discipline methods are used:

- Do you ever find it necessary to use strict discipline? Please describe the methods you use. (1.1)
- B.** Do you use activities with the children that encourage them to get along well with each other? If so, please explain. (7.2)
- C.** What do you do if you have a child with a serious or very difficult behavior problem? (7.3)

Item 33:

- A.** Are there any activities you use that encourage children to work together? Could you give me some examples? (7.2)

Item 34:

- A.** Under what weather circumstances are children **not** allowed to play outdoors (3.3)?

Item 35:

A. Could you describe any free play opportunities the children might have? When and where do these occur? What can children play with?

Item 37 (only if a child with a disability is presently served by the classroom):

A. Could you describe how you try to meet the needs of the children with disabilities in your group?

B. Do you have any information from assessments on the children? (1.1, 3.1)

C. How is it used? (1.1, 3.1)

D. Do you need to do anything special to meet the needs of the children (e.g., minor modifications and major modifications)? (1.2, 3.2, 5.2)

1. Please describe what you do.

E. Are you and the children's parents involved in helping to decide how to meet the children's needs? Please describe. (1.3, 3.3, 5.3)

F. How are intervention services such as therapy handled? (5.1, 7.1)

G. Are you involved in the children's assessments or in the development of intervention plans? What is your role? (7.3)

Item 38:

A. Is any written information about the program given to parents? What is included in this information? (1.1, 3.1)

B. Are there any ways parents can be involved in their child's classroom? Please give some examples. (1.2, 3.3, 5.4)

C. Do you and the parents ever share information about the children? How is this done? (3.2, 5.3)

D. What is your relationship with the parents usually like? (3.4)

E. Are parents able to visit the class before their child is enrolled? How is this handled? (5.1)

F. Do parents take part in evaluating the program? How is this done? About how often? (7.1)

G. What do you do when parents seem to be having difficulties? Do you refer them to other professionals for help? (7.2)

H. Do parent take part in making decisions about the program? How is this handled? (7.3)

Item 39:

A. Do you get time off during the day when you can be away from the children? When does this happen? (1.2, 3.4, 5.3)

B. Where do you usually store your personal things, such as your coat or purse? How does this work out? (3.3, 5.2)

Item 40:

A. Do you have access to a telephone? Where? (1.1, 3.1)

B. Do you have access to any file and storage space? Please describe. (1.2, 3.2, 5.1)

C. Is there any space you can use for parent/teacher conferences or for adult group meetings when the children are present? Please describe. (1.3, 3.3, 5.3, 7.2)

D. Is there an office for the program? Please describe. (5.2, 7.1)

Item 41:

A. Do you have a chance to share information about the children with the other staff that work with your group? When and how often does this happen? What kinds of things do you talk about? (1.1, 3.1, 5.1)

B. Do you have any planning time with your co-teachers? About how often (7.1)

C. How do you and your co-teachers decide what each of you will do? (7.2)

D. Does the program ever organize events that you and other staff participate in together? Could you give me some examples? (7.3)

Item 42:

A. Is your work supervised in any way? How is this done? (1.1, 3.1, 5.1, 5.2)

A. Informal supervision by administrative staff?

B. Annual supervisory observation? How long is the observation?

B. Are you ever given any feedback about your performance? How is this handled? How often? (1.2, 3.2, 5.2, 7.3)

- Is there a written evaluation shared with you? How often?

C. If improvement is needed, how is this handled? (5.4)

D. Do you ever take part in self-evaluation? (7.1)

Item 43:

A. Is any training provided to staff? Please describe this training. What is done with new staff? (1.1, 3.1, 3.2, 5.1, 5.2)

B. Do you ever have staff meetings? About how often? What is usually handled at these meetings? (1.2, 3.3, 5.3)

C. Are there any resources on site that you can use for new ideas? What is included? (7.1)

D. Is there any support provided so you can attend conferences or courses? Please describe what is available? (7.1)

E. Are there any requirements with less than an AA degree to continue their formal education? Please describe the requirements. (7.3)