



Arrangement of indoor space for child care

FCCERS-R Indicator	Why is this important?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Space is arranged so that routine care and play activities can be carried out to meet children's needs without major problems. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Toilet/diapering area close to play area. ○ Food preparation area permits easy supervision of children at play. ○ Traffic patterns do not interfere with play activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrangement of space allows adequate supervision of children without major difficulties. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extreme vulnerability of young children to illness, accidents, and injuries make it necessary for providers to maintain close visual supervision of the group at all times.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Space is cleared of breakable objects and things dangerous to children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most spaces used for child care accessible to children with disabilities enrolled in the group. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children with disabilities need to be able to freely interact with others and feel safe and secure in the environment like all children. Most would be only a few exceptions.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Space provided to allow different kinds of activities to go on at the same time. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quiet and active play activities for younger and older children. ○ Protected space for homework or completing a puzzle with many pieces. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials for different kinds of activities are usually organized by type for productive use by children. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Set of blocks stored separately. ○ Books on book shelf or in a basket. ○ Dramatic play materials gathered in one place. ○ Different types of toys are not mixed in toy box. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By having materials with similar use organized together children gradually learn about order in their world. They develop a sense of where to access materials, where it is appropriate to use them, and where they can be put back to find them the next time. • The space used needs to help children experience success with a variety of different activities. Interest areas will make play more convenient for the children.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials are usually placed for easy access by children, conveniently close to enough space where they can be used without interference. Space and play surfaces should be suitable for the type of material being used. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rattle, soft toys, crawling areas for infants. ○ Books, fine motor, gross motor areas for toddlers. ○ Art, fine motor, blocks on a steady surface, dramatic play areas for preschoolers. ○ Homework, art on a hard surface, games for school-agers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The placement of furniture in a room helps to determine traffic patterns, along with the fixed features of the room. High traffic areas such as the space near doorways and the bathroom, should be kept free of activities because of the possibility of constant interruptions. Furniture should be used to direct traffic around activity areas. Think of potential dangers and where you would like to keep children away from.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrangement usually promotes independent use of furnishings and materials. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Steps placed near sink. ○ Low open and accessible shelves located in play area. ○ Picture labels used to guide clean-up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convenient, organized storage for extra toys and materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

SOURCE: Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale (FCCERS)

