

Classroom Factors Observation Form

CLASSROOM FACTOR		CLASSROOM EXAMPLE	OBSERVATION NOTES
Appropriateness of Expectations	Too high expectations for self-control	Teacher expects that children stand in a straight line before they go outside.	
	A lot of waiting time	After washing hands, children sit at tables waiting for lunch. They sit for ten minutes.	
Space Design	Spaces too small	Children bump into each other and their structures in the block center.	
	Too much undefined space	Lack of furniture creates lots of room for running or roughhousing.	
Material Options	Too few materials	Children argue over materials because there are not enough interesting choices.	
	Too many choices	Children appear overwhelmed as shelves are overpacked with materials.	
	Inappropriate materials	Materials are either below or above children's developmental levels.	



Classroom Factors Observation Form (continued)

CLASSROOM FACTOR	CLASSROOM EXAMPLE	OBSERVATION NOTES
Teacher Responsiveness	Lesson plans are often unchanging from year to year. Plans do not change in response to children's interests or developmental needs.	
Sensory Stimulation	Classrooms overwhelm one or more of children's senses.	
Temptations	Teacher often says "no." Many parts of classroom or many materials are off-limits.	
Physical Development Needs	Children are using their large muscles (throwing, hitting, climbing) in inappropriate ways. There are no appropriate opportunities to use these muscles or skills in the classroom.	
Opportunities for Choice and Power	Children have very little free choice time and few opportunities to make choices about the activities in the classroom.	
Clarity of Expectations	Children appear confused about what the teacher expects of them.	
Presence of Joy	Most of the interactions in the classroom are corrective or negative. There is a lack of laughter and joy.	