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# **ERS Data System**

## **Software for the Environment Rating Scales**



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## Early Care and Education Quality Improvement

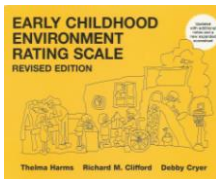
Improving the quality of early care and education begins with, and builds upon, a system of accurately and objectively assessing an early childhood program's strengths and weaknesses.

The **ERS Data System** facilitates the data gathering, management, reporting and analysis of early care and education assessments with an advanced suite of software tools based on the recognized gold standard, the *Environment Rating Scales*. Written by Thelma Harms, Richard Clifford, and Debby Cryer at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute and published by *Teacher's College Press*, these scales are the most widely used instruments for assessing quality in early care and education.

The environment rating scales are comprised of four distinct environment and age-appropriate instruments. These instruments enable an observer to consistently measure the strengths and weaknesses of a given early care and education environment.

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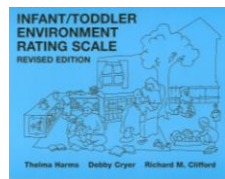
### ECERS-R



**Early Childhood  
Environment Rating  
Scale—Revised  
Edition**

Designed to assess group programs for children of preschool through kindergarten age, 2½ through 5.

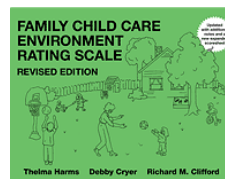
### ITERS-R



**Infant/Toddler  
Environment Rating  
Scale—Revised  
Edition**

Designed to assess group programs for children from birth to 2½ years of age.

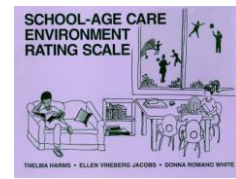
### FCCERS-R



**Family Child Care  
Environment Rating  
Scale—Revised  
Edition**

Designed to assess family child care programs conducted in a provider's home.

### SACERS



**School-Age Care  
Environment Rating  
Scale**

Designed to assess group-care programs for children of school age, 5 to 12.

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*“Once our assessors started using the software, I noticed that some of our scores began to drop. With the built-in worksheets, assessors are forced to itemize things like categories of books – often, assessors have been using the instruments for so long that they think they know the answers, when they really don’t. The software makes good assessors better.”*

**– ERS Supervisor**

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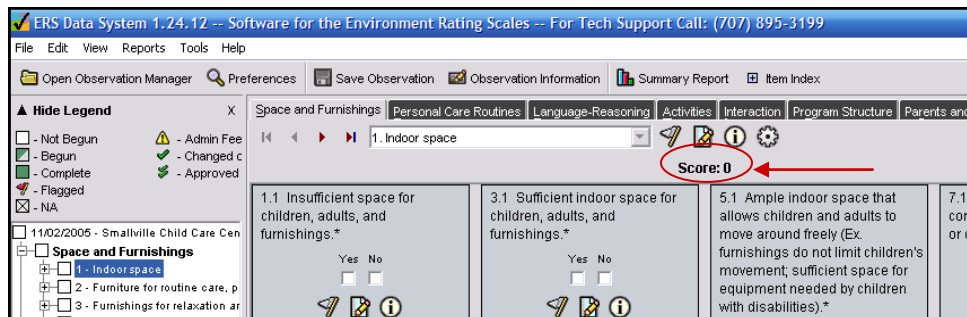
With the investment in early childhood programs growing at both the state and local levels, accountability is becoming more important than ever before.

Programs are being required to demonstrate to funders that their investments are improving the quality of care our youngest children receive.

Branagh Information Group recognizes this increasing need for accountability. We designed the *ERS Data System* to support the ACE standard, maximizing your team's quality improvement efforts.

## Accuracy

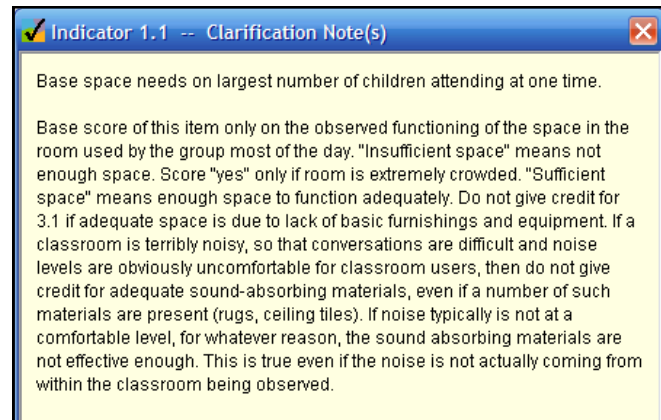
The *ERS Data System* eliminates scoring errors, and ensures that assessors never leave an assessment incomplete.



The ERS Data System scores items for you automatically.

## Consistency

The *ERS Data System* ensures that assessors within an organization are always "on the same page." With automatic internet updates to the software, assessors always have the current versions of the instruments and notes for clarification from the authors.



## Efficiency

The *ERS Data System* dramatically increases the productivity of your assessment team. Using the software's Supervisor's Toolkit, a supervisor can review an assessor's work without phone conferences and length emails. What used to take hours can now be done in less than an hour. An assessment can be completed within an hour of leaving the classroom.

## Features List

	<i>ERS Professional</i>	<i>ERS Enterprise</i>
Electronic versions of the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale, Revised (ECERS-R), Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale, Revised (ITERS-R), School-Age Care Environment Rating Scale (SACERS), and Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale (FCCERS-R)	✓	✓
Automatic scoring based on indicator answers	✓	✓
Ink-enabled worksheets that provide a convenient place for assessors to record their notes in their own handwriting	✓	✓
Customizable worksheets		✓
Standardized reports, including summary reports (that incorporates “handwritten” notes explaining why the specific criteria were not met for a given indicator), facility reports, and classroom profiles (that compares scores of a pre-assessment with those of a post-assessment)	✓	✓
Customizable reports		✓
Integrated Notes for Clarification from the authors of the Environment Rating Scales, along with supplemental materials like the USDA Meal Guidelines and the US Consumer Products Safety Commission’s Public Playground Safety Guideline	✓	✓
Customizable Notes for Clarification along with customizable supplemental materials		✓
Built-in Quality Improvement Plan module outlining steps required to improve the program’s quality	✓	✓
Tool that allows data to be extracted in into programs such as Excel, Access, SAS, or SPSS	✓	✓
Built-in Inter-Rater Reliability		✓
Supervisor’s Toolkit, allowing a supervisor to review assessments, provide feedback, and create on-going, individualized assessor training		✓

**For more information regarding the ERS Data System, please contact:**

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