

CLASSROOM SELF-ASSESSMENT

Classroom self-assessments are tools used by child care providers/staff and focus on the learning environment, the materials accessible to children and adult-child interactions. The practice of continually assessing the environment of your classroom/program and your interactions with children is a critical step in maintaining and improving your program.

The Cycle of Continuous Improvement

The cycle of continuous improvement will help guide you through the process of assessment, goal setting, implementation and reflection within your learning environment. The classroom self-assessment is conducted through observations and is then recorded and scored. This provides the evidence you need to determine an area of focus and create an action plan toward your goal(s). See the diagram on the following page for more guidance on using the continuous improvement cycle.

Things to Consider

- What classroom self-assessment tool(s) work best for my program?
- Do I have systems and procedures in place to conduct the classroom self-assessments?
 - Who conducts the classroom self-assessments?
 - When will classroom self-assessments be conducted?
 - How are the classroom self-assessments documented?
 - How are the results shared?
- Do I have the resources and materials needed to implement the action plan?
 - Have you documented a timeframe to complete your action plan?
 - Do items need to be purchased?
 - Are any trainings needed?

Best Practice Summary

- Classroom self-assessments are on-going, completed annually and should be reflected on periodically throughout the course of the year.
- Creating and documenting new goals each year will increase quality through your learning environments and daily interactions.
- The goal created should reflect directly back to your most recently completed classroom self-assessment booklet/score sheet.
- The documented action plans and goals should be shared with relevant staff members.

