

Required Assessment Items:

NAEYC required assessment items related to best practices are listed below. Required assessment items must be met by programs in order to earn NAEYC Accreditation. On your site visit, the assessor evaluates required assessment items by making *class observation ratings* [CO rating tool] and *program portfolio ratings* [PP rating tool].

It is imperative that programs understand and properly document the required assessment items. Programs rated “No” on any one of the required assessment items during the accreditation site visit will automatically receive an accreditation decision of “Defer” regardless of the program’s performance in relation to all other assessment items and best practices.

If the assessor determines one or more required assessment item has not been met during the course of the site visit, a detailed description and accounting of the failure(s) will be provided to NAEYC Early Learning Programs staff immediately following the visit, up to 24 hours. A representative of NAEYC Early Learning Programs Quality Assurance staff will notify the program of the failure(s) within three business days of the conclusion of the site visit and will provide the contact information for the program’s assigned regional specialist. Consultations may be scheduled with the assigned regional specialist once the complete Accreditation Decision Report has been issued.

Critical Incidents: If an assessor observes any child in immediate risk for harm or abuse, the assessor will notify the program staff immediately and may be required to directly contact the appropriate authorities as well as NAEYC Early Learning Programs. An observation may be terminated, and the entire visit may be terminated.

NAEYC Required Assessment Items:		
Item Number	Item Language	Source of Evidence
1B.4	Staff never use physical punishment and do not engage in psychological abuse or coercion.	CO
1B.10	Show that your guidance/discipline policy does not include any circumstances when it is permissible for staff to use any form of physical punishment, psychological abuse, or coercion when disciplining a child. Appropriate use of restraint for safety reasons is permissible.	PP
3C.2	If one or more infant, toddler, or young two year old cannot be easily heard and seen at all times by at least one member of the teaching staff, the child(ren) is/are in a safe environment.	CO
3C.3	If one or more infant, toddler, or young two year old is out of the direct sight or sound supervision of all teaching staff while in a safe environment, it is for no more than five minutes.	CO
3C.6	If a preschooler is out of the direct sight AND sound supervision of all teaching staff, it is for no more than 1 minute, and the child is in a safe environment.	CO
3C.7	If a preschooler is out of direct sight OR sound supervision of all teaching staff, it is for no more than ten minutes and the child is in a safe environment.	CO
3C.8	Teachers of kindergartners and school-age children keep these children within sight and/or hearing most of the time. A teacher may allow kindergartners and school-agers to leave their supervision (out of sight AND sound) for up to 10 minutes so long as they are in a safe environment (e.g., go to hall bathroom; report to school nurse office).	CO
5A.10	Teaching staff place infants on their backs to sleep, without the use of infant sleep positioners, unless ordered by a physician.	CO
10B.16	Show that your program and your facility has a license to operate or is regulated by an applicable public regulatory system. Your license or regulatory documentation indicates your program is in good standing with your regulatory body.	PP