



Developmental Environment Rating Scale



*Measuring What Matters;
Focusing on Classroom Quality*

The Developmental Environment Rating Scale (DERs)

The DERs is a classroom observation tool that measures environmental and behavioral qualities proven to support **executive functions**, **linguistic and cultural fluency**, and **social-emotional development**.

WWW.DERS-APP.ORG

Inspired by Montessori—Supporting the whole child



Developmental Environmental Rating Scale

Measuring What Matters

The DERS rates 60 attributes across child behavior, adult behavior, and the classroom environment. Each attribute maps to one of five domains proven to support long-term positive outcomes such as academic achievement, income potential, life satisfaction, and more.

The Five Domains

- » Initiation and concentration
- » Inhibitory control
- » Working memory
- » Linguistic and cultural fluency
- » Social fluency and emotional flexibility

} Executive Functions



Rating with the DERS

Trained observers use the DERS iPad app to rate attributes over a one hour observation. Observers can rate and record behaviors as they see them, and revise their ratings at the end of the assessment. Observers can easily switch between child, adult, and environmental rating, and the scoring guidelines are built in to ensure consistency across raters and environments.



Using the Ratings

The DERS app creates a report for each classroom, and classrooms can be compared over time. Detailed reporting allows the DERS to be used as a tool for continuous improvement.

Training and the DERS-MEFS Network

Use of the DERS requires a training and certification delivered in face-to-face workshops or online. Schools have the opportunity to join a network of programs using the DERS, to share and compare data and to improve the assessment. Schools in the network also receive training in the Minnesota Executive Function Scale (MEFS), which directly assesses executive function.

For more information and to schedule training, visit ders-app.org or contact DERS at DERS@public-montessori.org.