

## Early Childhood Quality Snapshot Educator FAQ

**What is the Early Childhood Quality Snapshot?** The Early Childhood Quality Snapshot is an informational tool that can help families understand different elements of quality at early childhood programs across New York City. The Snapshot usually contains data from ECERS and CLASS assessments, the NYC School Survey, and the Quality Review (for District Schools). **Please note that this year's Snapshot only includes NYC School Survey data; ECERS and CLASS assessments and the Quality Review (for District Schools) are not included this year due to the temporary pause on assessments during the pandemic.** Our goal is to give families information to help them find the program that best meets their child's needs.

The Snapshot is one of many ways to learn about quality. We also encourage families to visit programs to observe, ask questions to early childhood leaders and teachers, and talk to other families about their experiences. All early childhood programs, including NYCDOE District Schools, Pre-K Centers, New York City Early Education Centers (NYCEECs), Family Child Care homes, and Charter Schools, are held to the same standards outlined in the [Early Childhood Framework for Quality](#).

**How is the Early Childhood Quality Snapshot useful for program leaders?** Program leaders can use the Early Childhood Quality Snapshot in the following ways:

- To guide conversations with families during the enrollment period.
- To highlight areas of strength and opportunities for growth in your program.
- To target professional development and identify changes that could support quality improvements in your program in partnership with DECE coaches.

**How can I access the Early Childhood Quality Snapshot online?** To access the Early Childhood Quality Snapshot:

- Visit MySchools at [MySchools.nyc](https://www.myschools.nyc.gov/)
- Click on the 3-K or pre-K program you'd like to learn more about
- Click the "Early Childhood Snapshot" button

**How is quality measured on the Snapshot?** The Snapshot includes results from the [NYC School Survey](#) of families and teachers. In the past, they have included data from program assessments; due to the temporary pause on program assessments during the pandemic, program assessment data will not be included in this year's Snapshot. "Program assessments" are based on observations that happen in early childhood classrooms. NYCDOE assessment specialists are trained to measure quality and give programs their assessment scores. Assessment specialists use the following three measurement tools:

- The **Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)** is a national tool that looks at interactions that happen between teachers and children in 3-K and/or pre-K classrooms.

- The **Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS-3)** is a national tool that looks at the 3-K/pre-K learning environment. This includes things like the classroom and playground layout, the way children are supervised, the materials they have to use, and the amount of time they have to play.
- The **Quality Review** is a process developed by the NYCDOE that looks at how well district schools are organized to support student learning and teacher practice. The Quality Review looks at the entire school, not just their early childhood program.

CLASS, ECERS-3, and the Quality Review do not happen every year for each program. In past years the most recent information from the past three school years is included in the Snapshot, including the date that each assessment happened. As referenced previously, this year's Snapshot only includes NYC School Survey data; ECERS and CLASS assessments and the Quality Review (for District Schools) are not included this year due to the temporary pause on assessments during the pandemic.

**Why do some programs not have Snapshots or have "N/A" on their Snapshots?** If a program does not have a Snapshot, it means that data is not available for that program. If a program has "N/A" on its Snapshot, it means that program assessment data is not available for that specific area. This can happen in programs that are new to early childhood. Having an "N/A" or not having a Snapshot does not mean that the program is not high quality; it simply means we have not yet measured it.

**What do I do if I think there is a data error in my Early Childhood Quality Snapshot?** If you have concerns that your NYC School Survey data does not match your records, please contact [programassessment@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:programassessment@schools.nyc.gov).

### Helpful Links

- [Pre-K Application Information](#)
- [3-K Application Information](#)
- [EarlyLearn Application Information](#)
- [MySchools](#)
- [Framework for Great Schools](#)
- [Early Childhood Framework for Quality](#)
- [Program Assessments Information](#)
- [NYC School Survey](#)
- [Quality Review](#)