
Michigan's Multi-Tiered System of Supports Technical Assistance Center
May 2024 – Version 1.0

Checklist for the Classroom Physical Environment

This checklist can be used to evaluate the physical organization of the classroom. Adapted from *Explicit Instruction*, Archer & Hughes (2011).

Directions: Review the items to evaluate the organization of your classroom.

| | | |
|--|-----|----|
| 1. Have you designated areas for specific activities (e.g., whole-group instruction, small-group instruction, rug time, free-choice, quiet reading, computer lab)? | Yes | No |
| 2. In instructional areas, are students in close proximity to you? | Yes | No |
| 3. In instructional areas, are students facing you and are you able to monitor responses of all students? | Yes | No |
| 4. Are students seated in rows in order to maximize on-task behavior? | Yes | No |
| 5. Have you created seating charts and assigned seats? | Yes | No |
| 6. Have students been taught how to transition their desks from rows to clusters or groups for partner or group activities? | Yes | No |
| 7. During instruction, can students easily share answers with partners or group? | Yes | No |
| 8. Have you arranged your instructional materials for easy retrieval? | Yes | No |
| 9. Are the student materials needed during instruction or independent work easily retrievable? | Yes | No |
| 10. Have students been taught organizational skills (e.g. binders, folders, assignment calendar)? | Yes | No |
| 11. Can you move quickly and easily around the room, monitoring students without interference of physical barriers? | Yes | No |
| 12. Can you see all parts of the room and all students? | Yes | No |
| 13. Have you displayed material on the classroom walls that supports instruction (e.g. class calendar, vocabulary words, strategy posters, rubrics, reference materials, rule/expectations poster, notices)? | Yes | No |
| 14. Have you displayed student work that demonstrates effort and achievement? | Yes | No |
| 15. Is your classroom orderly? | Yes | No |

Michigan's MTSS Technical Assistance Center is funded by the Michigan Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs.