Tip Sheet

Assessing Your Environment From A Child’s Perspective

*Indicator: 2.1.f: Thoughtfully modify the environment to support children’s success.Indicator: 1.4.a: Organize and equip the outdoor play space to provide a variety of developmental experiences and physical activities for children in a safe environment*

Often as educators we know and value the concept of getting down to a child’s level when we engage them in conversation, but rarely do we get down to their level to look at the spaces that we have thoughtfully created for them. One thing you as an educator could try would be to draw a map of your outdoor or indoor learning environment as it is currently set up. Get down to the children’s eye level (or make it an activity with the children) and ask yourself:

* What does it look like?
* What spaces are there?
* Is there somewhere to go to play quietly?
* Is there somewhere to go to be noisy?
* Is there somewhere to run and jump?
* Is there something to climb?
* What else can you do outside?
* What else can you do inside
* Is nature part of your outdoor world?
* Is nature a part of your indoor world?
* If you were a child, would your environment be appealing?
* How can it be improved?
* How does the program modify the environment to promote independence?
* What helps children enjoy being active in the outdoor play space of your program?

https://www.ecrh.edu.au/docs/default-source/resources/ipsp/Create-the-perfect-play-space-learning-environments-for-young-children.pdf?sfvrsn=12