

**“Much of the Day”** is associated with the children’s access to materials typically used indoors. If at any time any child is awake and able to play and is prevented from using materials for long periods by overly long routines when a child/children have to wait with nothing to do, being kept in a group that they are not engaged in, or being kept in areas where access is not possible, credit for “much of the day” cannot be given. If any awake child is prevented from reaching and using materials for a total of 20 minutes during the three hour observation, credit is not given. For non-mobile children: If materials are stored out of reach, the child must be moved to reach them, or the practice of placing material within a child’s reach from all or most activity areas must be provided to earn credit for much of the day. The 20 minutes can be calculated as one 20 minute time period or may be calculated as a combination of smaller time periods that equal twenty minutes.

**“Substantial Portion of the Day”** is a term used in several indicators throughout the ECERS-R scale and refers to the time materials are accessible to children. Substantial Portion of the Day is calculated through observation and review of a program’s daily schedule. To meet Substantial Portion of the Day, materials need to be accessible for children to use without barriers for at least 1/3 of the time a program is open, not to exceed 12 hours. For example, if a program is open from 9 AM to 12 PM, materials would need to be accessible for one hour. If a program is open 6 AM to 6 PM, materials would need to be accessible for four hours. (For YoungStar purposes, hours outside of 6 AM and 6 PM will not be included in calculating Substantial Portion of the Day).