



## Assess your practice first.

Read the below description and evaluate it in relation to your practices.

**Exceeding – Critical reflections.** Following critical reflection, several changes were implemented. Safety equipment like goggles was improved to support risk-taking activities. Adjustments were made to ensure surfaces and equipment didn't get too hot in the sun. New resources were introduced to younger age groups, reflecting a shift in beliefs about children's capabilities. Efforts were made to source resources that reflect community diversity, including more loose parts for creative play, and visits to second-hand shops to find unique items.

If you are doing similar practices to the example, use the below question to help you write your '**exceeding practice for critical reflection**' description so you can add it to your QIP or SAT (NSW only).

For **Exceeding** the QIP and Self-Assessment Tool (SAT)

**Critical Reflection** - Please discuss what changes were made to your resources and equipment following critical reflection by your team or service.

**If you and your educators need to learn how to achieve exceeding – critical reflection, proceed here and do below.**

The following section outlines the steps to ensure you are exceeding in Critical Reflection. If you have already successfully completed the previous section demonstrating how you are exceeding in Critical Reflection, you do not need to complete this section.

## Look at the words in detail to identify what is exceeding.

Please discuss what changes were made to your resources and equipment following critical reflection by your team or service.

### Changes to resources and equipment:

This refers to any modifications or adjustments made to the materials, tools, and equipment used within the team or service. Critical reflection involves a careful examination of the existing resources and equipment to assess their effectiveness, relevance, and alignment with the team's goals and objectives. This reflection process may reveal areas where improvements or changes are necessary to better support the team's practices and the desired outcomes for children. It could involve adding new resources, removing, or replacing outdated or ineffective ones, or enhancing existing materials to better meet the needs of the children and facilitate their learning experiences.

**Critical reflection by the team or service:** This part highlights the importance of engaging in critical reflection as a team or service. Critical reflection involves a deliberate and thoughtful examination of the team's practices, approaches, and the use of resources and equipment. It involves asking critical questions, seeking feedback and input from team members, and analysing the outcomes and impacts of the team's efforts. This reflection process allows the team to identify areas of strength, areas for improvement, and potential gaps or limitations in their resources and equipment. It helps them gain insights into what is working well and what changes may be needed to enhance the quality of their services and promote positive outcomes for children.

Now that we have examined the words in detail, we can start exploring what these concepts could look like for you. It is important to ensure that we make it very clear how these concepts have **created change** in your service.

**Please discuss what changes were made to your resources and equipment following critical reflection by your team or service.**

After a team reflection, we introduced a wider variety of sensory play materials, such as kinetic sand, water beads, and textured fabrics. This change was made to better support children with different sensory needs and to enhance sensory exploration for all children, promoting inclusivity and catering to diverse developmental needs.

Reflecting on the need for cultural diversity, we sourced new multicultural dolls, books, and musical instruments representing various cultures. This decision was made to ensure that all children see their backgrounds reflected in the resources, promoting a more inclusive environment and fostering respect and understanding of different cultures.

In response to feedback about limited outdoor play options, we invested in more versatile climbing equipment and natural loose parts like logs and stones. This addition was aimed at enhancing gross motor skills and encouraging imaginative play, allowing children to engage in more dynamic and challenging outdoor activities.

Following observations of children's interests in STEM, we expanded our resources to include more advanced building kits, robotics sets, and scientific tools. This change supports more complex, child-led STEM projects, fostering critical thinking, problem-solving, and a deeper engagement with science and technology concepts.

Based on reflections on children's feedback, we introduced a wider range of art supplies, including more sustainable and recycled materials. This change encourages children to explore eco-friendly practices and creativity, promoting environmental awareness and responsible use of resources through innovative art projects.

Recognising the need for more quiet spaces, we created additional cosy nooks and sensory tents for children

who require calm areas. This change was made to support children's emotional regulation and provide safe spaces for those who might need a break from more stimulating activities, promoting overall well-being.

After critical reflection on inclusivity, we sourced adaptive equipment for children with physical disabilities, such as adjustable tables and chairs, and specialised play equipment. This ensures all children can participate fully in activities, promoting an inclusive environment where every child can engage in play and learning comfortably and safely.

**Your example. Select a point from above and break it down into the subsections.**

Please discuss what **changes were made** to your **resources and equipment**. *(Remember reading these descriptions becomes a part of the reflection).*

...following critical reflection by your team or service. *(Describe the changes you made after the reflection).*