



# Mathematics

## Student Background Questionnaire

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**2003**  
**Grade 4**

# SECTION 3

## Section 3

In this section, please tell us about yourself and your family. The section has 15 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet.

1. Are you Hispanic or Latino? Fill in **one or more ovals**.

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- Ⓐ No, I am not Hispanic or Latino.
- Ⓑ Yes, I am Mexican, Mexican American, or Chicano.
- Ⓒ Yes, I am Puerto Rican or Puerto Rican American.
- Ⓓ Yes, I am Cuban or Cuban American.
- Ⓔ Yes, I am from some other Hispanic or Latino background.

2. Which of the following best describes you? Fill in **one or more ovals**.

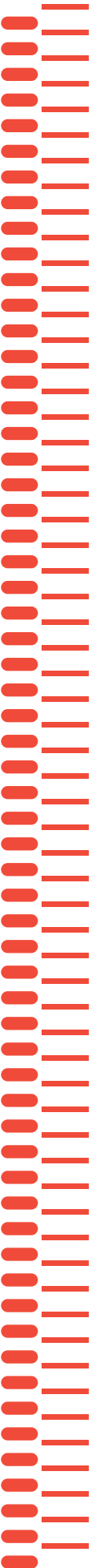
VB331331

- Ⓐ White
- Ⓑ Black or African American
- Ⓒ Asian
- Ⓓ American Indian or Alaska Native
- Ⓔ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

Section 3

For the rest of the questions in this section, fill in only **one** oval for each question.

3. Does your family get a newspaper at least four times a week? VB331333
- (A) Yes
- (B) No
- (C) I don't know.
4. Does your family get any magazines regularly? VB331334
- (A) Yes
- (B) No
- (C) I don't know.
5. About how many books are there in your home? VB331335
- (A) Few (0-10)
- (B) Enough to fill one shelf (11-25)
- (C) Enough to fill one bookcase (26-100)
- (D) Enough to fill several bookcases (more than 100)
6. Is there a computer at home that you use? VB331336
- (A) Yes
- (B) No
7. Is there an encyclopedia in your home? It could be a set of books, or it could be on the computer. VB331337
- (A) Yes
- (B) No
- (C) I don't know.
8. Is there a world atlas in your home? It could be a book of maps of the world, or it could be on the computer. VB331338
- (A) Yes
- (B) No
- (C) I don't know.
9. About how many pages a day do you have to read in school and for homework? TB001101
- (A) 5 or fewer
- (B) 6-10
- (C) 11-15
- (D) 16-20
- (E) More than 20



10. How often do you talk about things you have studied in school with someone in your family?  
VB331339
- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
  - Ⓑ Once every few weeks
  - Ⓒ About once a week
  - Ⓓ Two or three times a week
  - Ⓔ Every day
11. On a school day, about how many hours do you usually watch TV or videotapes outside of school?  
VB331340
- Ⓐ None
  - Ⓑ 1 hour or less
  - Ⓒ 2 or 3 hours
  - Ⓓ 4 or 5 hours
  - Ⓔ 6 hours or more
12. How many days were you absent from school in the last month?  
VB331447
- Ⓐ None
  - Ⓑ 1 or 2 days
  - Ⓒ 3 or 4 days
  - Ⓓ 5 to 10 days
  - Ⓔ More than 10 days
13. How far in school did your mother go?  
VB330870
- Ⓐ She did not finish high school.
  - Ⓑ She graduated from high school.
  - Ⓒ She had some education after high school.
  - Ⓓ She graduated from college.
  - Ⓔ I don't know.
14. How far in school did your father go?  
VB330871
- Ⓐ He did not finish high school.
  - Ⓑ He graduated from high school.
  - Ⓒ He had some education after high school.
  - Ⓓ He graduated from college.
  - Ⓔ I don't know.
15. How often do people in your home talk to each other in a language other than English?  
VB331451
- Ⓐ Never
  - Ⓑ Once in a while
  - Ⓒ About half of the time
  - Ⓓ All or most of the time



# SECTION 4

## Section 4

This Section has 6 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question.

1a. For this school year, how often do you do mathematics problems from textbooks?

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- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once or twice a month
- Ⓒ Once or twice a week
- Ⓓ Almost every day

1b. For this school year, how often do you solve mathematics problems with a partner or in small groups?

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- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once or twice a month
- Ⓒ Once or twice a week
- Ⓓ Almost every day

1c. For this school year, how often do you work with objects like rulers, counting blocks, or geometric shapes?

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- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once or twice a month
- Ⓒ Once or twice a week
- Ⓓ Almost every day

1d. For this school year, how often do you write a few sentences about how you solved a mathematics problem?

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- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once or twice a month
- Ⓒ Once or twice a week
- Ⓓ Almost every day

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1e. For this school year, how often does your teacher have you talk with other students during class about how you solved mathematics problems?

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- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once or twice a month
- Ⓒ Once or twice a week
- Ⓓ Almost every day

1f. For this school year, how often do you use a computer?

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- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once or twice a month
- Ⓒ Once or twice a week
- Ⓓ Almost every day

Section 4

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2. Do you have a calculator that you can use to do mathematics schoolwork?

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No

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3a. For this school year, how often do you use a calculator for classwork?

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once or twice a month
- Ⓒ Once or twice a week
- Ⓓ Almost every day

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3b. For this school year, how often do you use a calculator for homework?

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once or twice a month
- Ⓒ Once or twice a week
- Ⓓ Almost every day

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3c. For this school year, how often does your teacher let you use a calculator for tests or quizzes?

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Sometimes
- Ⓒ Most of the time
- Ⓓ Always

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4. About how much time do you usually spend each **day** on mathematics homework?

- Ⓐ None
- Ⓑ 15 minutes
- Ⓒ 30 minutes
- Ⓓ 45 minutes
- Ⓔ One hour
- Ⓕ More than one hour

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5. Do you get extra help in mathematics from a special teacher, teacher aide, or tutor?

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No



**Questions 6a-6c.** The following statements are about mathematics. For each statement, please mark the answer that best describes you.

6a. I like mathematics.

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- Ⓐ This is not like me.
- Ⓑ This is a little like me.
- Ⓒ This is a lot like me.

6b. I am good at mathematics.

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- Ⓐ This is not like me.
- Ⓑ This is a little like me.
- Ⓒ This is a lot like me.

6c. I understand most of what goes on in mathematics class.

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- Ⓐ This is not like me.
- Ⓑ This is a little like me.
- Ⓒ This is a lot like me.

**Questions 6d-6g.** These statements ask about mathematics. For each statement, please mark the answer that tells how much you agree with it.

6d. There is only one correct way to solve a mathematics problem.

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- Ⓐ I disagree.
- Ⓑ I am not sure if I disagree or agree.
- Ⓒ I agree.

6e. Learning mathematics is mostly memorizing facts.

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- Ⓐ I disagree.
- Ⓑ I am not sure if I disagree or agree.
- Ⓒ I agree.

6f. Mathematics is useful for solving everyday problems.

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- Ⓐ I disagree.
- Ⓑ I am not sure if I disagree or agree.
- Ⓒ I agree.

6g. All students can do well in mathematics if they try.

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- Ⓐ I disagree.
- Ⓑ I am not sure if I disagree or agree.
- Ⓒ I agree.

