



Teacher Background Questionnaire

2003
Grade 4

Teacher Questionnaire - Grade 4

Part I: Background, Education, and Training

For several questions on this survey, you are asked to fill in numbers. For these questions, please print the appropriate number in each of the boxes provided. Please print legibly with a No. 2 pencil. Keep all printing within the boxes, and erase any stray marks.

Using one number per box, fill in every box. For example, 95 students would be written as:

1. Are you Hispanic or Latino? Fill in **one or more ovals**. VB331330

- (A) No, I am not Hispanic or Latino.
- (B) Yes, I am Mexican, Mexican American, or Chicano.
- (C) Yes, I am Puerto Rican or Puerto Rican American.
- (D) Yes, I am Cuban or Cuban American.
- (E) 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

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

3. Counting this year, how many years have you worked as an elementary or secondary teacher? Include any full-time teaching assignments, part-time teaching assignments, and long-term substitute assignments, but not student teaching. If less than 4 months total experience, enter "00." VB333653

Years

4. What type of teaching certificate do you hold?
- Ⓐ Regular or standard state certificate or advanced professional certificate
 - Ⓑ Probationary certificate (the initial certificate issued after satisfying all requirements except the completion of a probationary period)
 - Ⓒ Provisional or other type of certificate given to persons who are still participating in what the state calls an “alternative certification program”
 - Ⓓ Temporary certificate (requires some additional college coursework and/or student teaching before regular certification can be obtained)
 - Ⓔ Emergency certificate or waiver (issued to persons with insufficient teacher preparation who must complete a regular certification program in order to continue teaching)
 - Ⓕ No certificate

5. Are you working toward or have you received certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (National Board Certification)?
- Ⓐ I have received National Board Certification.
 - Ⓑ I am currently working toward National Board Certification.
 - Ⓒ I do not have National Board Certification and I am not currently working toward National Board Certification.
 - Ⓓ I am not familiar with the National Board Certification process.

6. Did you have a major, minor, or special emphasis in any of the following subjects as part of your **undergraduate** coursework? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes, a major	Yes, a minor or special emphasis	No	
a. Reading, language arts, or literacy education	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB378391
b. English	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB378392
c. Other language arts-related subject	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB378394
d. Mathematics education	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB482657
e. Mathematics	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB482658
f. Other mathematics-related subject such as statistics or physics	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB482659
g. Education (including elementary or early childhood)	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB482660

7. Did you have a major, minor, or special emphasis in any of the following subjects as part of your **graduate** coursework? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes, a major	Yes, a minor or special emphasis	No	
a. Reading, language arts, or literacy education	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB378395
b. English	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB378396
c. Other language arts-related subject	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB378398
d. Mathematics education	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB473837
e. Mathematics	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB473838
f. Other mathematics-related subject such as statistics or physics	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB473839
g. Education (including elementary or early childhood)	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB473840

8. **During the last two years**, did you participate in or lead any of the following professional development activities **related to the teaching of language arts or mathematics**? Language arts refers to reading, writing, literature, and related topics. Fill in **one or more** ovals on each line.

	Yes, related to language arts	Yes, related to mathematics	No	
a. College course taken after your first certification	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB473843
b. Workshop or training session	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB473844
c. Conference or professional association meeting	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB473845
d. Observational visit to another school	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB473846
e. Mentoring and/or peer observation and coaching as part of a formal arrangement	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB473847
f. Committee or task force focusing on curriculum, instruction, or student assessment	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB473848
g. Regularly scheduled discussion or study group	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB473849
h. Teacher collaborative or network (such as one organized by an outside agency or over the Internet)	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB473850
i. Individual or collaborative research	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB473851
j. Independent reading on a regular basis (for example, educational journals, books, or the Internet)	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB473852
k. Co-teaching/team teaching	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB473853
l. Consultation with a subject specialist	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB473854

9. Do you have special leadership responsibilities for **reading or language arts education** at your school (for example, responsibilities as a mentor teacher, lead teacher, resource specialist, departmental chair, or master teacher)?

(A) Yes

(B) No

10. Do you have special leadership responsibilities for **mathematics education** at your school (for example, responsibilities as a mentor teacher, lead teacher, resource specialist, departmental chair, or master teacher)?

(A) Yes

(B) No

Part II: Classroom Organization

The following questions ask about the organization of your classroom. If you teach more than one 4th-grade class, please pick a single one of these classes to use as the basis for answering the questions about classroom organization.

VB473856

1. How many students are in this class?

- (A) 15 or fewer
- (B) 16-18
- (C) 19-20
- (D) 21-25
- (E) 26 or more

VB473857

2. Which best describes your role in teaching **language arts** to this class? Language arts refers to reading, writing, literature, and related topics. Fill in **one** oval.

- (A) I do not teach language arts to this class.
- (B) I teach all or most subjects, including language arts.
- (C) The only subject I teach is language arts.
- (D) We team teach, and I have primary responsibility for teaching language arts.

VB473858

3. Which best describes your role in teaching **mathematics** to this class? Fill in **one** oval.

- (A) I do not teach mathematics to this class.
- (B) I teach all or most subjects, including mathematics.
- (C) The only subject I teach is mathematics.
- (D) We team teach, and I have primary responsibility for teaching mathematics.

4. Which best describes how **language arts** instruction is organized? Language arts refers to reading, writing, literature, and related topics. Fill in **one** oval.
- Ⓐ Language arts is taught primarily as a discrete subject with little or no integration with instruction in other subjects.
 - Ⓑ Some language arts instruction is integrated with other subjects, and some language arts instruction is presented as a discrete subject.
 - Ⓒ Language arts lessons are primarily integrated with instruction in other subjects.

5. About how much time in total do you spend with this class on **language arts instruction** in a typical week? Language arts refers to reading, writing, literature, and related topics.
- Ⓐ Less than 7 hours
 - Ⓑ 7-9.9 hours
 - Ⓒ 10-12.9 hours
 - Ⓓ 13 or more hours

6. About how much time in total do you spend with this class on **mathematics instruction** in a typical week?
- Ⓐ Less than 7 hours
 - Ⓑ 7-9.9 hours
 - Ⓒ 10-12.9 hours
 - Ⓓ 13 or more hours

Part III: Reading Instruction

These questions refer to your reading instruction in general. If you do not teach reading, go to Part IV of this questionnaire. If you teach more than one 4th grade reading class, please pick a single class to use as the basis for answering these questions.

1. Are students assigned to this class by ability?

- A Yes
- B No

HE001284

2. What is the reading ability level of the students in this class?

- A Primarily high ability
- B Primarily average ability
- C Primarily low ability
- D Widely mixed ability

HE001201

3. On what basis do you create instructional groups for reading in this class?

- A I don't create groups for reading in this class.
- B Ability
- C Interest
- D Diversity
- E Other

PJ000198



Questions 4-10. How often do you use each of the following to assess student progress in reading? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or Hardly Ever	Once or Twice a year	Once or Twice a Month	Once or Twice a Week	
4. Multiple-choice tests	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	ID100373
5. Short-answer tests	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	ID100375
6. Paragraph length written responses about what students have read	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	PJ000269
7. Individual or group projects or presentations	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	PJ000270
8. Reading portfolios	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	PJ000272
9. Extended essays/papers on assigned topics	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	PJ000271
10. Oral reading assessment	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	PJ000273

Part IV: Mathematics Instruction

If you do not teach mathematics, stop here.

Questions 1 and 2. These questions refer to your mathematics instruction in general. If you teach more than one 4th grade mathematics class, please pick a single one of these classes to use as the basis for answering these questions.

HE001130

1. How often do you use each of the following to assess student progress in mathematics?
Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or Hardly Ever	Once or Twice a Year	Once or Twice a Month	Once or Twice a Week	
a. Multiple-choice tests	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	HE001131
b. Problem sets	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	HE001132
c. Short (e.g., a phrase or sentence) or long (e.g., several sentences or paragraphs) written responses	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	HE001133
d. Individual or group projects or presentations	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	HE001134

HE002402

2. If you do use computers, what is the primary use of these computers for mathematics instruction?
- A I do not use computers for instruction.
 - B Drill and practice
 - C Demonstration of new topics in mathematics
 - D Playing mathematical/learning games
 - E Simulations and applications

HE002412

3. Are students assigned to this class by ability?

- (A) Yes
- (B) No

HE002384

4. If students are assigned by ability, what is the mathematics ability level of the students in this class?

- (A) Students are not assigned by ability.
- (B) Primarily high ability
- (C) Primarily average ability
- (D) Primarily low ability
- (E) Widely mixed ability

HE001104

5. Do you create groups within this class for mathematics instruction on the basis of ability?

- (A) Yes
- (B) No

HE001106

6. Approximately how much mathematics homework do you assign to students in this class each day?

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

T044600

7. Think about your plans for this mathematics class for the entire year. How much emphasis did you or will you give each of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Little or no emphasis	Moderate emphasis	Heavy emphasis	
a. Numbers and operations	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID110366
b. Measurement	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID110367
c. Geometry	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID110368
d. Data analysis, statistics, and probability (informal introduction of concepts)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID110369
e. Algebra and functions (informal introduction of concepts)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID110370

HE001135

8. Do you permit students in this class unrestricted use of calculators?

- A Yes
- B No

HE001136

9. Do you permit students in this class to use calculators for tests?

- A Yes
- B No

10. Do the students in this class have access to calculators owned by the school?

A Yes

B No

11. Do you provide instruction to students in this class in the use of calculators?

A Yes

B No