

**Science  
Student Questionnaire**

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**2011  
Grade 8**

# SECTION 3

## Section 3

In this section, please tell us about yourself and your family. The section has 12 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question except where instructed otherwise.

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

VB331330

- Ⓐ 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.

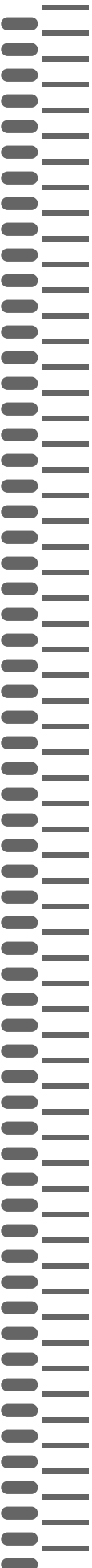
VB331331

- Ⓐ 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 any magazines regularly?  
VB331334
- (A) Yes  
(B) No  
(C) I don't know.
4. 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)
5. Is there a computer at home that you use?  
VB331336
- (A) Yes  
(B) No
6. 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.
7. 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
8. How often do you talk about things you have studied in school with someone in your family?  
VB331339
- (A) Never or hardly ever  
(B) Once every few weeks  
(C) About once a week  
(D) Two or three times a week  
(E) Every day
9. How many days were you absent from school in the last month?  
VB331447
- (A) None  
(B) 1 or 2 days  
(C) 3 or 4 days  
(D) 5 to 10 days  
(E) More than 10 days



10. How far in school did your mother go? <sup>VB330870</sup>

- Ⓐ 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.

11. How far in school did your father go? <sup>VB330871</sup>

- Ⓐ 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.

12. How often do people in your home talk to each other in a language other than English? <sup>VB331451</sup>

- Ⓐ Never
- Ⓑ Once in a while
- Ⓒ About half of the time
- Ⓓ All or most of the time



# SECTION 4

## Section 4

This section has 13 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question except where instructed otherwise.

1. In your science class this year, which of the following topics have been covered? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

VC304978

	Yes	No	
a. Life science (for example, biology, the human body, or ecology)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VC304982
b. Physical science (for example, energy, physics, or chemistry)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VC304983
c. Earth and space science (for example, geology or astronomy)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VC304984
d. Engineering and technology (for example, designing solutions to problems)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VC304985

2. In your science class this year, have you done hands-on activities or projects with any of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

VC304986

	Yes	No	
a. Living things (for example, plants, animals, bacteria)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VC304988
b. Electricity (for example, batteries and light)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VC304989
c. Chemicals (for example, mixing or dissolving sugar or salt in water)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VC304991
d. Rocks or minerals (for example, identifying types)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VC305007
e. Magnifying glass or microscope (for looking at small things)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VC305008
f. Thermometer or barometer (for making measurements)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VC305009
g. Simple machines (for example, pulleys and levers)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VC305012

VC305292

3. In your science class this year, how often do you do each of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or hardly ever	Once every few weeks	About once a week	Two or three times a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Read a science textbook, in class or at home	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC546510
b. Read a book or magazine about science	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC305295
c. Read about science on the computer	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC720562
d. Watch a movie, video, or DVD about science	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC305307

VC304769

4. In your science class this year, how often do you do each of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or hardly ever	Once every few weeks	About once a week	Two or three times a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Discuss events in the news that are related to what you are learning in science class	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC304771
b. Work with other students on a science project or activity	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC304772
c. Figure out different ways to solve a science problem	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC304777
d. Present what you learned about science to your class	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC304778
e. Take a science test or quiz	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC720564

VC720622

5. In your science class this year, how often do you do each of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or hardly ever	Once every few weeks	About once a week	Two or three times a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Identify questions that can be addressed through science experiments	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VC720623
b. Design a science experiment	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VC720634
c. Talk about measurements you took for your science project or activity	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VC720635
d. Talk about the results of your science project or activity	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VC720636
e. Watch your teacher do a science experiment or activity	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VC720638
f. Make graphs or charts of the results from your science project or activity	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VC720639
g. Write a report on your science project or activity	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VC720641

6. In this school year, how often have you been asked to write long answers to questions on tests or assignments for science?

VC315289

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day or almost every day

7. In this school year, how often have you talked with your teacher about how you are doing in science?

VC546453

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day or almost every day

8. In this school year, how often have you used library resources for science?

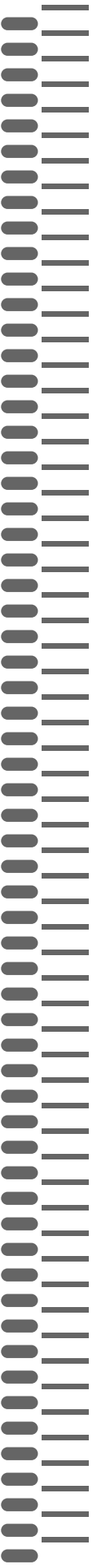
VC315266

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day or almost every day

9. In this school year, how often have you used computers for science?

VC546463

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day or almost every day





VC305330

10. Please indicate how much you DISAGREE or AGREE with the following statements about science. Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	
a. I do science-related activities that are not for schoolwork.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC305348
b. I like science.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC305350
c. Science is one of my favorite subjects.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC305351
d. I take science only because I have to.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC305352
e. I take science only because it will help me in the future.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC305353

VB595182

11. How hard was this test compared to most other tests you have taken this year in school?

- A Easier than other tests
- B About as hard as other tests
- C Harder than other tests
- D Much harder than other tests

VB595184

13. How important was it to you to do well on this test?

- A Not very important
- B Somewhat important
- C Important
- D Very important

VC034559

12. How hard did you try on this test compared to how hard you tried on most other tests you have taken this year in school?

- A Not as hard as on other tests
- B About as hard as on other tests
- C Harder than on other tests
- D Much harder than on other tests

