

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20208-5651

KINDERGARTEN TEACHER SURVEY  
ON STUDENT READINESS

FAST RESPONSE SURVEY SYSTEM

FORM APPROVED  
O. M. B. No.: 1850-0676  
EXPIRATION DATE: 12/93

This survey is authorized by law (20 U.S.C. 1221e-1). While you are not required to respond, your cooperation is needed to make the results of this survey comprehensive, accurate, and timely.

**DEFINITIONS FOR THIS SURVEY:**

prekindergarten - program primarily for 4-year-olds prior to kindergarten

transitional (or readiness) kindergarten - extra year of school for kindergarten-age eligible children who are judged not ready for kindergarten

kindergarten - traditional year of school primarily for 5-year-olds prior to first grade

transitional first grade - extra year of school for children who have attended kindergarten and have been judged not ready for first grade

class - refers to the child's total school day, including time spent with any teacher, as well as time spent on meals, naps, recess, and between activities

activity center - clearly delineated, organized, thematic work and play area where children interact with materials and other children without the teacher's constant presence or direction (such as a language arts area, a block area, a dramatic play area)

**AFFIX LABEL HERE**

IF ABOVE INFORMATION IS INCORRECT, PLEASE CORRECT DIRECTLY ON LABEL.

Name of person completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the best day/time to reach you at this number, if we have any questions? Day: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:**

WESTAT, INC.,  
1650 Research Boulevard  
Rockville, Maryland 20850  
ATTN: Heaviside, 928122

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CALL:**

Sheila Heaviside  
1-800-937-8281, Ext. 8391

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1. Do you teach (circle one answer in each row):
- |                                      |     |    |
|--------------------------------------|-----|----|
|                                      | Yes | No |
| a. A full-day class? .....           | 1   | 2  |
| b. A half-day morning class? .....   | 1   | 2  |
| c. A half-day afternoon class? ..... | 1   | 2  |

If you teach separate a.m. and p.m. classes, answer questions 2-8 with respect to the morning class.

2. What type of class is this? (See cover page for definitions. Circle one.)
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Kindergarten class .....  | 1 |
| Transitional (or readiness) kindergarten class .....                                      | 2 |
| Transitional first grade class .....  | 3 |
| Multigrade or ungraded class with at least some kindergarten-age children (specify) _____ | 4 |
3. a. How many children were enrolled in this class as of October 1? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. As of October 1, how many children in this class were: (If none, please enter 0)
- |   |       |   |       |
|---|-------|---|-------|
| American Indian or Alaskan Native ..... | _____ | c. As of October 1, how many children in this class were: (If none, please enter 0) | _____ |
| Asian or Pacific Islander .....         | _____ | Four years old or younger .....   | _____ |
| Black, non-Hispanic .....               | _____ | Five years old .....  | _____ |
| Hispanic .....                          | _____ | Six years old .....   | _____ |
| White, non-Hispanic .....               | _____ | Seven years old or older .....  | _____ |
4. a. How many days per week does this class meet? \_\_\_\_\_ b. Hours per week? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. How many adult paid assistants or co- or team teachers do you have in this class in a typical week? \_\_\_\_\_
- d. On average, how many hours per week does each adult paid assistant or co- or team teacher spend in this class? \_\_\_\_\_
- e. How many adult volunteer assistants do you have in this class in a typical week? \_\_\_\_\_
- f. On average, how many hours per week does each adult volunteer assistant spend in this class? \_\_\_\_\_
- |  |     |    |
|--|-----|----|
|  | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
5. a. Does each child have his or her own desk? .....

b. Do you have activity centers (see cover page for definition) in this classroom? .....

6. How often does a typical child in your class engage in each of the following activities in a typical week?

	Never	1-2 days a week	3-4 days a week	5 days a week
a. Running, climbing, jumping, and other gross motor activities .....	1	2	3	4
b. Free play .....	1	2	3	4
c. Choosing from a set of specified options (like building blocks, manipulatives, or books) .....	1	2	3	4
d. Using manipulatives for math or science .....	1	2	3	4
e. Using worksheets for math or science .....	1	2	3	4
f. Using worksheets for literacy skills .....	1	2	3	4
g. Listening to stories read aloud .....	1	2	3	4
h. Dramatic play, arts and crafts, music (creative activities) .....	1	2	3	4

7. On average, how much time each day does your class spend in formal group instruction by the teacher in reading, numbers, or the alphabet? \_\_\_\_\_ h o u r s \_\_\_\_\_ m i n u t e s

8. On average, how much time each day does your class spend in individual or small group activities planned by the teacher and selected by the child ran? \_\_\_\_\_ h o u r s \_\_\_\_\_ m i n u t e s

9. Here is a list of statements that different kindergarten teachers have made regarding their views of readiness. Indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements.  
1 = strongly disagree; 2 = disagree; 3 = neither; 4 = agree; 5 = strongly agree.

	Strongly disagree				Strong agree
a. Attending preschool is very important for success in kindergarten .....					1 2 3 4 5
b. Children who begin formal reading and math instruction in preschool (nursery or prekindergarten) will do better in elementary school .....					1 2 3 4 5
c. Parents should make sure that their children know the alphabet before they start kindergarten .....	1	2	3	4	5
d. If a child appears to be unready for kindergarten, I would suggest he or she wait a year before enrolling .....					1 2 3 4 5

		Strongly disagree			Strong agree
e. Children with readiness problems should enter school as soon as they are eligible so they can be exposed to the things they need	1	2	3	4	5
f. Readiness comes as children grow and mature; you can't push it	1	2	3	4	5
g. I can enhance children's readiness by providing experiences they need to build important skills	1	2	3	4	5
h. Parents should set aside time every day for their kindergarten children to practice schoolwork	1	2	3	4	5
i. Homework should be given in kindergarten almost every day	1	2	3	4	5
j. I assume that by the end of the kindergarten year all children will be ready for first grade	1	2	3	4	5
k. I hesitate to send children onto first grade if I feel they are not ready for the demands that they will meet there	1	2	3	4	5
l. I communicate with the first grade teachers so they can proceed from where I have left off	1	2	3	4	5
m. Parents should read to their children and play counting games at home regularly	1	2	3	4	5
n. Most children should learn to read in kindergarten	1	2	3	4	5
o. The best way to learn how to read is to practice matching letters and sounds over and over	1	2	3	4	5
p. One of the best ways to help children learn to read is by reading to them	1	2	3	4	5
q. Kindergarten children should not be given reading instruction unless they show an interest	1	2	3	4	5

10. In your professional judgment, how important do you believe the following characteristics are for a child to be ready for kindergarten?

1 = not at all important; 2 = not very important; 3 = somewhat important; 4 = very important; 5 = essential.

		Not at all important			Essent
a. Is physically healthy, rested, well-nourished	1	2	3	4	5
b. Finishes tasks	1	2	3	4	5
c. Can count to 20 or more	1	2	3	4	5
d. Takes turns and shares	1	2	3	4	5
e. Has good problem-solving skills	1	2	3	4	5
f. Is enthusiastic and curious in approaching new activities	1	2	3	4	5
g. Is able to use pencils or paint brushes	1	2	3	4	5
h. Is not disruptive of the class	1	2	3	4	5
i. Knows the English language	1	2	3	4	5
j. Is sensitive to other children's feelings	1	2	3	4	5
k. Sits still and pays attention	1	2	3	4	5
l. Knows the letters of the alphabet	1	2	3	4	5
m. Can follow directions	1	2	3	4	5
n. Identifies primary colors and basic shapes	1	2	3	4	5
o. Communicates needs, wants, and thoughts verbally in child's primary language	1	2	3	4	5

11. Using the list in question 10, select the 3 characteristics most important \_\_\_\_\_ Most important  
 for a child's readiness for kindergarten. (Enter the letter from a to o \_\_\_\_\_ Second most important  
 for your 3 choices.) \_\_\_\_\_ Third most important

12. a. How many years have you been teaching? \_\_\_\_\_  
 b. How many years have you been teaching kindergarten? \_\_\_\_\_

13. Did you major in early childhood education in college or graduate school? Yes ... 1 No ... 2

14. How many courses in early childhood education have you completed? \_\_\_\_\_

15. Are you currently a member of a professional association for early childhood education? Yes ... 1 No ... 2

16. What is your sex? Male ..... 1 Female ..... 2

17. What is your racial/ethnic background?

American Indian or Alaskan Native	1	Hispanic	4
Asian or Pacific islander	2	White, non-Hispanic	5
Black, non-Hispanic	3	Other, (specify) _____	6