Your school has been selected to participate in the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS), an educational research project sponsored by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA). PIRLS is investigating student achievement in reading literacy in about 40 countries around the world. It is designed to measure and interpret differences in national education systems in order to help improve the teaching and learning of reading worldwide.

This questionnaire is addressed to school principals who are asked to supply information about their schools. Since your school has been selected as part of a nationwide sample, your responses are very important in helping to describe the education in <country>.

It is important that you answer each question carefully so that the information provided reflects the situation in your school as accurately as possible. Some of the questions will require that you look up school records, so you may wish to arrange for the assistance of another staff member to help provide this information. It is estimated that it will require approximately 30 minutes to complete this questionnaire.

Since PIRLS is an international study and all countries are using the same questionnaire, you may find that some of the questions seem unusual or are not entirely relevant to you or schools in <country>. Nevertheless, it is important that you do your best to answer all of the questions so comparisons can be made across countries in the study.

When you have completed the questionnaire, please place it in the accompanying envelope and return it to:

<Insert country-specific information here>.

Thank You.
1. Which of the following <grades> are found in your school?

Check one circle for each line.

- a) <One grade below grade tested> 
- b) <Two grades below grade tested> 
- c) <Three grades below grade tested>
- d) <Four grades below grade tested>
- e) <Second year of Level 0>
- f) <First year of Level 0>

2. What is the total enrollment of students in your school as of <first day of month PIRLS testing begins, 2001>?

___________Girls
Write in a number.

___________Boys
Write in a number.

3. What is the total enrollment of <fourth-grade> students in your school as of <first day of month PIRLS testing begins, 2001>?

___________Girls
Write in a number.

___________Boys
Write in a number.

4. Is your school located in a town or city?

Check one circle only.

- Yes
- No

If Yes...

a. What is the size of the town or city in which your school is located?

Check one circle only.

- Less than 3,000 people
- 3,001 to 100,000 people
- 100,001 to 500,000 people
- More than 500,000 people

5. How would you characterize the area in which your school is located?

Check one circle only.

- Urban
- Suburban
- Rural
6. Please indicate how near each of the following is to your school.

Check one circle for each line.

Within 30 minutes of one-way travel time by car

Within 2 hours of one-way travel time by car

Not readily available

a) Public library

b) Bookstore or book department in a store

c) <Secondary-level school>

d) <University or college>

e) Museum or art gallery

f) Theatre or concert hall

ACBGAVR1
ACBGAVR2
ACBGAVR3
ACBGAVR4
ACBGAVR5
ACBGAVR6

ACBGENDY

7. Of students who were enrolled in your school at the start of this school year, about what percentage is still enrolled?

Exclude students who transferred into the school this year.

Check one circle only.

98-100% ---
95-97% ---
90-94% ---
80-89% ---
Less than 80% ---

ACBGENDY

8. Approximately what percentage of students in your school ...

Check one circle for each line.

a) come from economically disadvantaged homes?  ------

b) come from economically affluent homes?  -------

c) were born in another country?  ---------------

d) receive some instruction at school in their home language (other than <language of test>)

ACBGFS1
ACBGFS2
ACBGFS3
ACBGFS4

9. Approximately what percentage of <grades 1 to 4> students in your school ...

Check one circle for each line.

a) do not speak <language of test> as their first language?

b) have <learning disabilities> related to reading in <language of test>?

c) receive <remedial> reading instruction in <language of test>?

d) receive <enrichment> reading instruction because they are advanced readers

ACBGFS1
ACBGFS2
ACBGFS3
ACBGFS4
10. Are fourth-grade classes formed on the basis of students’ ability (so that all students in a class are about the same ability)?
   Check one circle only.
   Yes --- ☐
   No --- ☐

11. For the fourth-grade students in your school:
   a. How many days per year is your school open for instruction?
      ________ days
   b. What is the total instructional time, excluding breaks, in a typical day?
      ________ hours and ________ minutes
   c. In one calendar week, how many days is the school open for instruction?
      Check one circle only.
      6 days --- ☐
      5 days --- ☐
      Other --- ☐
      Please specify ________

12. How long do ISCED Level 1 students in your school typically stay with the same classroom teacher?
   Check one circle only.
   Varies greatly --- ☐
   One school year or less --- ☐
   Two years --- ☐
   Three years --- ☐
   Four or more years --- ☐

13. How much influence do the following have on your school’s fourth-grade curriculum?
   Check one circle for each line.
   A lot of influence
   Some influence
   Little or no influence
   Not applicable
   a) National or regional curriculum
   b) National or regional examinations/assessments of student achievement
   c) Other standardized tests
   d) Parents’ wishes
   e) Students’ wishes

   Check one circle for each line.
   a) National or regional curriculum
   b) National or regional examinations/assessments of student achievement
   c) Other standardized tests
   d) Parents’ wishes
   e) Students’ wishes
About how many of the students in your school can do the following when they begin <first year of formal schooling>?

Check one circle for each line.

- Less than 25%
- 25-50%
- 51-75%
- More than 75%

a) Recognize most of the letters of the alphabet
b) Read some words
c) Read sentences
d) Write letters of the alphabet
e) Write some words

Compared with other areas of the curriculum, how much emphasis does your school place on teaching the following language and literacy skills to students in <grades 1 to 4>?

Check one circle for each line.

- More emphasis
- Same emphasis
- Less emphasis

a) Reading
b) Writing (not handwriting)
c) Speaking/listening (oral language)

Does your school have the following?

Check one circle for each line.

- Yes
- No

a) Its own written statement of the reading curriculum to be taught in the school (in addition to the national or regional curriculum guides)
b) Informal initiatives to encourage reading students to read (for example, book clubs, independent reading contests, school-wide recreational reading periods)
c) School-based programs for teachers geared towards the improvement of reading instruction

Does your school have a policy to coordinate reading instruction across <fourth grade and below>?

Check one circle only.

- Yes
- No
PIRLS School Questionnaire

18. How does your school use the following materials in your reading instructional program for students in <fourth grade and below>?

- ( ) Reading series (basal readers, graded readers)
- ( ) Textbooks
- ( ) A variety of children's books
- ( ) Materials from different curricular areas
- ( ) Children's newspapers and/or magazines

Check one circle for each line.

Basis for instruction

- Supplement
- Not used
- Varies by teacher/grade

19. At which grade do the following reading skills and strategies first receive a major emphasis in instruction in your school?

Check one circle for each line.

- <3_grds_blw+earlier>
- <2_grds_blw>
- <1_grd_blw>
- <fourth grade>
- Not in these grades

- ( ) Knowing letters of the alphabet
- ( ) Knowing letter-sound relationships
- ( ) Reading words
- ( ) Reading isolated sentences
- ( ) Reading connected text
- ( ) Identifying the main idea of text
- ( ) Explaining or supporting understanding of text
- ( ) Comparing text with personal experience
- ( ) Comparing different texts
- ( ) Making predictions about what will happen next in text
- ( ) Making generalizations and inferences based on text
- ( ) Describing style and structure of text

ACBGMA1
ACBGMA2
ACBGMA3
ACBGMA4
ACBGMA5
ACBGMA6
ACBGMA7
ACBGMA8
ACBGMA9
ACBGMA10
ACBGMA11
ACBGMA12
### School Resources

#### 20
Which of these statements best describes how the reading instructional program in your school is implemented for students at different reading levels?

- Students at different reading levels follow the same reading instructional program but at different speeds.  
- All students follow the same reading instructional program at the same speed.  
- Students at different reading levels follow different reading instructional programs.

- Check one circle only.

#### 21
Does your school have a library?

- Check one circle only.
  - Yes ---
  - No ---  
  (If No, go to #22)

**If Yes,**

a. What is the primary way your school library is staffed?

- Check one circle only.
  - Full-time librarian ---
  - Part-time librarian ---
  - Staffed by teachers ---
  - Staffed by parents or other volunteers ---

b. **Approximately how many books with different titles does your school library have (exclude magazines and periodicals)?**

- Check one circle only.
  - 250 or fewer ---
  - 251-500 ---
  - 501-2,000 ---
  - 2,001-5,000 ---
  - 5,001-10,000 ---
  - more than 10,000 ---

c. **Approximately how many titles of magazines and other periodicals does your school library have?**

- Check one circle only.
  - 0 ---
  - 1-5 ---
  - 6-10 ---
  - 11-30 ---
  - 31 or more ---
22. How many classrooms in your school have classroom libraries/reading corners?

Check one circle only.

All ---  
Most ---  
Some ---  
None ---  

23. a. What is the total number of computers that can be used for instructional purposes by fourth-grade students?

Write in the number. If zero (0), go to #24.

24. How much is your school’s capacity to provide instruction affected by a shortage or inadequacy of the following?

Check one circle for each line.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>A little</th>
<th>Some</th>
<th>A lot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Instructional staff</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Teachers qualified to teach reading</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Instructional materials (e.g., textbooks)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Supplies (e.g., papers, pencils)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) School buildings and grounds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Heating/cooling and lighting systems</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Instructional space (e.g., classrooms)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) Special equipment for physically disabled students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Computers for instructional purposes</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j) Computer software for instructional purposes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>k) Computer support staff</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>l) Library books</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m) Audio-visual resources</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
25 Are any of the following programs and services available at your school site for the children and families in your school? Check one circle for each line.

- Adult literacy program
- Parent education programs (e.g., classes on child development, education on being a parent)
- Before- or after-school child care
- Health or social services

26 How often is each of the following provided by your school for fourth-grade students and/or their families? Check one circle for each line.

- Teacher-parent conferences
- Letters, calendars, newsletters, etc., sent home to provide parents with information about the school
- Written reports (report cards) of child’s performance sent home
- Teacher home visits
- Events at school to which parents are invited
- Fundraising activities that parents participate in

27 Approximately what percentage of students in your school have parents or guardians who do each of the following? Check one circle for each line.

- Volunteer regularly to help in the classroom or another part of the school
- Attend teacher-parent conferences
- Attend cultural, sporting, or social events at the school
- Do fundraising and other support activities for the school
School Climate

28 How would you characterize each of the following within your school? Check one circle for each line.

- Very high
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Very low

a) Teachers' job satisfaction ----

b) Teachers' expectations for student achievement ---------

c) Parental support for student achievement ---------------

d) Students' regard for school property ------------------------

e) Students' desire to do well in school ----------------------

29 To what degree is each of the following a problem in your school? Check one circle for each line.

- Not a problem
- Minor problem
- Moderate problem
- Serious problem

a) Student tardiness -----------------

b) Student absenteeism (i.e., unjustified absences) ---------

c) Classroom disturbance -------

d) Cheating -------------------------

e) Profanity -----------------------

f) Vandalism ----------------------

g) Theft ----------------------------

h) Intimidation or verbal abuse among students -------

i) Physical conflicts among students ------------------------

j) <drug abuse> -------------------

k) <weapons> ---------------------

l) <racism> -----------------------

m) <sexual harassment> ---------

ACB6CHA1
ACB6CHA2
ACB6CHA3
ACB6CHA4
ACB6CHA5
ACBGPB1
ACBGPB2
ACBGPB3
ACBGPB4
ACBGPB5
ACBGPB6
ACBGPB7
ACBGPB8
ACBGPB9
ACBGPB10
ACBGPB11
ACBGPB12
ACBGPB13
30. Does your school have an official policy related to promoting cooperation and collaboration among teachers?

Check one circle only.

Yes --- 

No --- 

31. How often do the teachers in your school have formally scheduled time to meet to share or develop instructional materials and approaches?

Check one circle only.

Every day --- 

Two or three times a week --- 

Once a week --- 

Once a month --- 

Less than once a month --- 

Never --- 

32. As principal of this school, approximately what percentage of your time is devoted to the following activities?

Write a percentage for each.

a) Developing curriculum and pedagogy for your school------------------------ ______% 

b) Managing staff/staff development---------------------- ______% 

c) Administrative duties (e.g., hiring, budgeting)--------------------- ______% 

d) Parent and community relations---------------------- ______% 

e) Teaching---------------------------------------- ______% 

f) Other------------------------------------------------ ______% 

Total = 100 % 

33. About how long did it take you to complete this questionnaire?

___________ minutes

Write in a number.
Thank you for the thought, time, and effort you have put into completing this questionnaire.