Identification Label

Teacher Name: 

Class Name: 

Teacher ID: 

Teacher Link #: 

Progress in International Reading Literacy Study

PIRLS 2006

TEACHER QUESTIONNAIRE

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If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to: National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006-5650. OMB No. 1850-0645, approval expires 03/31/2008.
Your school has agreed to participate in the IEA 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 children’s 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 teachers of fourth-grade students, who are asked to supply information about their academic and professional backgrounds, classroom resources, and the instructional materials and activities used to teach reading and promote the development of students’ reading skills and strategies. Since your class has been selected as part of a nationwide sample, your responses are very important in helping to describe reading education in the United States.

Some of the questions in this questionnaire refer to “this class.” This is the class which is identified on the front of this booklet, and which will be tested as part of PIRLS in your school.

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 the United States. 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.

It is estimated that it will require approximately 30 minutes to complete this questionnaire. We appreciate the time and effort that this takes and thank you for your cooperation and your contribution.

A Test Administrator from RTI International will pick up the completed questionnaire on the day that the students are scheduled to complete the PIRLS assessment at your school. If for any reason the Test Administrator fails to connect with you, a Business Reply Envelope will be supplied for you to return the questionnaire directly to RTI International.

Thank You.
**Students in this Class**

1. a. How many students are in this class?
   ___________ students
   *Write in a number.*

   b. How many of the students in #1a are in fourth grade?
   ___________ fourth-grade students
   *Write in a number.*

   Questions 2-6 ask about the fourth-grade students in this class.

2. By the end of the school year how many years in total will you have been teaching the fourth-grade students in this class?

   *Check one circle only.*
   - One year or less ----
   - Two years ----
   - Three years ----
   - Four years or more ----

3. According to your experience, how would you describe the reading level of the fourth-grade students in this class?

   *Check one circle only.*
   - Most are above average ----
   - Most are average ----
   - Most are below average ----
   - Reading level varies greatly ----

4. How many students experience difficulties understanding spoken English?

   ___________ fourth-grade students in this class
   *Write in a number.*

5. a. How many students need remedial instruction in reading?

   ___________ fourth-grade students in this class
   *Write in a number.*

   b. How many of the students in #5a receive remedial instruction in reading?

   ___________ students
   *Write in a number.*

6. a. Is there any provision for enrichment reading instruction in your school?

   *Check one circle only.*
   - Yes ----
   - No ---- *(If No, go to #7)*

   If Yes...

   b. How many students receive enrichment reading instruction because they are advanced readers?

   ___________ fourth-grade students in this class
   *Write in a number.*
7

In a typical school week, what percentage of your time in class with students do you devote to the following activities?

Write a percentage for each.

a) Teaching the class as a whole
b) Working with individual students
   or small groups
c) Administrative duties
   (e.g., attendance)
d) Maintaining discipline
e) Other duties

Total = 100 %

8

Questions 8-9 ask about English language instruction for the fourth-grade students in this class.

a. In a typical week, how much time do you spend on English language instruction and/or activities with the students?
   Include instruction or activities in reading, writing, speaking, literature, and other language skills.

   _________ hours and _________ minutes per week
   Write in the hours and minutes.

b. Regardless of whether or not you have formally-scheduled time for reading instruction, in a typical week about how much time do you spend on reading instruction and/or activities with the students?
   Include things you do across curriculum areas and during formally-scheduled time for reading instruction.

   _________ hours and _________ minutes per week
   Write in the hours and minutes.

c. Is any of the time in #8b explicitly for formal reading instruction?

   Check one circle only.

   Yes ---- ○
   No ---- ○
   (If No, go to #9)

If Yes...

d. How much time is explicitly for formal reading instruction?

   _________ hours and _________ minutes per week
   Write in the hours and minutes.
Questions 11-17 ask about reading instruction for the fourth-grade students in this class.

11
When you have reading instruction and/or do reading activities, how often do you organize students in the following ways?

Check one circle for each line.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Always or almost always</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Never</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) I teach reading as a whole-class activity</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) I create same-ability groups</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) I create mixed-ability groups</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) I use individualized instruction for reading</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>e) Students work independently on an assigned plan or goal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Students work independently on a goal they choose themselves</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
When you have reading instruction and/or do reading activities with the students, how often do you use the following resources?

**Check one circle for each line.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Everyday or almost every day</th>
<th>Once or twice a week</th>
<th>Once or twice a month</th>
<th>Never or almost never</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Textbooks</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>b) Reading series (e.g., basal readers, graded readers)</td>
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<tr>
<td>c) Workbooks or worksheets</td>
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<tr>
<td>d) Children’s newspapers and/or magazines</td>
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<tr>
<td>e) Computer software for reading instruction (e.g., CD, DVD)</td>
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<tr>
<td>f) Reading material on the Internet (Web pages)</td>
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<tr>
<td>g) A variety of children’s books (e.g., novels, collections of stories, non-fiction)</td>
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<tr>
<td>h) Materials from other subjects</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>i) Materials written by students</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

When you have reading instruction and/or do reading activities with the students, how often do you have the students read the following types of text?

**Check one circle for each line.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Text</th>
<th>Everyday or almost every day</th>
<th>Once or twice a week</th>
<th>Once or twice a month</th>
<th>Never or almost never</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Short stories (e.g., fables, fairy tales, action stories, science fiction, detective stories)</td>
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<tr>
<td>b) Longer books with chapters (fiction)</td>
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<tr>
<td>c) Poems</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>d) Plays</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>e) Descriptions and explanations about things, people, or events (non-fiction)</td>
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<tr>
<td>f) Instructions or manuals about how things work</td>
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<tr>
<td>g) Charts, diagrams, graphs</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Which of these best describes how you use reading instructional materials for students at different reading levels?

**Check one circle only.**

- I use the same materials with all students because all students are at the same reading level
- I use the same materials with students at different reading levels, but have the students work at different speeds
- I use the same materials with all students regardless of reading level and have students work at the same speed
- I use different materials with students at different reading levels
After students have read something, how often do you ask them to do the following?

Check one circle for each line.

Every day or almost every day
Once or twice a week
Once or twice a month
Never or almost never

a) Answer reading comprehension questions in a workbook or on a worksheet about what they have read

b) Write something about or in response to what they have read

c) Answer oral questions about or orally summarize what they have read

d) Talk with each other about what they have read

e) Do a project about what they have read (e.g., a play or an art project)

f) Take a written quiz or test about what they have read
17. How often do you ask the students to do the following things to help develop reading comprehension skills or strategies?

Check one circle for each line.

**Every day or almost every day**

- a) Identify the main ideas of what they have read
- b) Explain or support their understanding of what they have read
- c) Compare what they have read with experiences they have had
- d) Compare what they have read with other things they have read
- e) Make predictions about what will happen next in the text they are reading
- f) Make generalizations and draw inferences based on what they have read
- g) Describe the style or structure of the text they have read

**Once or twice a week**

- h) Look up information on the Internet
- i) E-mail or chat with other students about what they are learning
- j) Read stories or other texts on the computer
- k) Use instructional software to develop reading skills and strategies
- l) Use the computer to write stories or other texts
- m) Use the internet to do projects with students in other schools or countries

**Once or twice a month**

- n) Identify the main ideas of what they have read
- o) Explain or support their understanding of what they have read
- p) Compare what they have read with experiences they have had
- q) Compare what they have read with other things they have read
- r) Make predictions about what will happen next in the text they are reading
- s) Make generalizations and draw inferences based on what they have read
- t) Describe the style or structure of the text they have read

**Never or almost never**

- u) Identify the main ideas of what they have read
- v) Explain or support their understanding of what they have read
- w) Compare what they have read with experiences they have had
- x) Compare what they have read with other things they have read
- y) Make predictions about what will happen next in the text they are reading
- z) Make generalizations and draw inferences based on what they have read
- a) Describe the style or structure of the text they have read

18. Are computers available for use by your class?

- Yes
- No

(If No, go to #19)

If Yes,

a. Where are computers available for use by your class?

Check one circle for each line.

- a) One or more computers available in the classroom
- b) Available elsewhere in the school or nearby

b. Do any of the computers have access to the Internet (e-mail or World Wide Web)?

Check one circle only.

- Yes
- No

c. How often do you have students do the following computer activities?

Check one circle for each line.

- a) Look up information on the Internet
- b) E-mail or chat with other students about what they are learning
- c) Read stories or other texts on the computer
- d) Use instructional software to develop reading skills and strategies
- e) Use the computer to write stories or other texts
- f) Use the internet to do projects with students in other schools or countries
19. Do you have a library or reading corner in your classroom?

Check one circle only.

Yes ----

No ---- (If No, go to #20)

If Yes,

a. About how many books and magazines with different titles are in your classroom library?

________ different titles of books
Write in a number.

________ magazines
Write in a number. (Count each title only once)

b. How often do you give the students in your class time to use the classroom library or reading corner?

Check one circle only.

Every day or almost every day ----

Once or twice a week ----

Once or twice a month ----

Never or almost never ----

c. Can the students borrow books from the classroom library or reading corner to take home?

Check one circle only.

Yes ----

No ----

20. How often do you take or send the students to a library other than your classroom library?

Check one circle only.

Every day or almost every day ----

Once or twice a week ----

Once or twice a month ----

Never or almost never ----
Questions 21-22 ask about homework for the fourth-grade students in this class.

21

How often do you assign reading as part of homework (for any subject)?

Check one circle only.

I do not assign reading for homework ---- (Go to #23)

Less than once a week ----

1 or 2 times a week ----

3 or 4 times a week ----

Every day ----

Questions 23-24 ask about how you deal with reading difficulties of fourth-grade students in this class.

23

Are the following resources available to you to deal with students who have difficulty with reading?

Check one circle for each line.

Always

Sometimes

Never

a) A reading specialist is available to work in my classroom with those students

b) A reading specialist is available to work in another classroom with those students

c) A teacher-aide or other adult is available to work in my classroom with those students

d) Other professionals (e.g., learning specialist, speech therapist) are available to work with those students

22

In general, how much time do you expect students to spend on homework involving reading (for any subject) each time you assign it?

Check one circle only.

15 minutes or less ----

16-30 minutes ----

31-60 minutes ----

more than 60 minutes ----
**Questionnaire**

Questions 25-27 ask about assessment for the fourth-grade students in this class.

25. How much emphasis do you place on the following sources to monitor students' progress in reading?

Check **one** circle for each line.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Major emphasis</th>
<th>Some emphasis</th>
<th>Little or no emphasis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Diagnostic reading tests (including miscue analysis, running records, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Classroom tests (for example, teacher-made or textbook tests)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>c) National or regional achievement tests</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Your professional judgment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

24. What do you usually do if a student begins to fall behind in reading?

Check **one** circle for each line.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) I wait to see if performance improves with maturation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) I spend more time working on reading individually with that student</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) I have other students work on reading with the student having difficulty</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) I have the student work in the regular classroom with a teacher-aide</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) I have the student work in the regular classroom with a reading specialist</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) I have the student work in a remedial reading classroom with a reading specialist</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) I assign homework to help the student catch up</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) I ask the parents to help the student with reading</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
a. How often do you use each of the following to assess students’ performance in reading?

Check one circle for each line.

At least once a week

Once or twice a month

Once or twice a year

Never

a) Multiple-choice questions on material read

b) Short-answer written questions on material read

c) Paragraph-length written responses about what students have read

d) Listening to students read aloud

e) Oral questioning of students

f) Students give an oral summary/report of what they have read

g) Meeting with students to discuss what they have been reading and work they have done

b. How do you use this information?

Check one circle for each line.

Yes

No

a) To assign marks or grades

b) To adapt my instruction

c) To inform parents of student progress

d) To identify students in need of remedial instruction

e) To group students for instruction

f) To provide data for national or local monitoring

27

How much are portfolios (collection of samples of students’ work, a reading log, etc.) a part of your assessment of students’ progress in reading?

Check one circle only.

Major source

Supplementary source

Do not use at all
28
For the typical fourth-grade student in this class, how often do you do these things?

Check one circle for each line.

At least once a week

Once or twice a month

4-6 times a year

1-3 times a year

Never

a) Meet or talk individually with the child’s parents to discuss his/her progress in reading ---

b) Send a progress report on the child’s reading home to his/her parents----------------

29
By the end of this school year, how many years will you have been teaching altogether?

__________ years

Please round to the nearest whole number.

30
By the end of this school year, how many years in total will you have been teaching fourth grade?

__________ years

Please round to the nearest whole number.

31
How old are you?

Check one circle only.

Under 25 ----

25-29 ----

30-39 ----

40-49 ----

50-59 ----

60 or more

32
Are you female or male?

Female ----

Male ----
33 What is the highest level of formal education you have completed?

Check one circle only.

Did not complete high school ----
Finished high school ----
Finished vocational or technical certificate--
Finished associate’s degree ----
Finished bachelor’s degree ----
Finished master’s degree or higher ----

34 Are you certified to teach?

Check one circle only.

Yes ----
No ---- (If No, go to #35)

If Yes...

What type of license or certificate do you hold?

Check one circle only.

Regular or standard state or advanced professional certificate ----
Probationary certificate ----
Provisional, temporary, or emergency certificate ----
Other ----

35 As part of your formal education and/or training, to what extent did you study the following areas?

Check one circle for each line.

Not at all Overview or introduction to topic

It was an area of emphasis

a) English language-------------------------------

b) Literature -------------------------------

c) Pedagogy/teaching reading--------------------

d) Psychology-------------------------------

e) Remedial reading----------------------

f) Reading theory ---------------------

g) Children’s language development ---------------

h) Special education-------------------

i) Second language learning -----------

36 In the past two years, how many hours in total have you spent in in-service/professional development workshops or seminars that dealt directly with reading or teaching reading (e.g., reading theory, instructional methods)?

Check one circle only.

None ----
Less than 6 hours ----
6-15 hours ----
16-35 hours ----
More than 35 hours ----
37. For your professional development, about how often do you read each of the following?

- a) Books or professional journals related to teaching in general
- b) Books or professional journals related to teaching reading
- c) Children’s books

Check one circle for each line.

38. When you are at home, how often do you read for enjoyment?

Check one circle only.

- Every day or almost every day
- Once or twice a week
- Once or twice a month
- Never or almost never

39. Do you work full time or part time?

Check one circle only.

- Full time
- Part time

40. Where do you prepare materials for instruction?

Check one circle only.

- Only at home
- Mostly at home
- About equally at home and at school
- Mostly at school
- Only at school

41. How much do you agree with the following statements?

Check one circle for each line.

- Agree a lot
- Agree a little
- Disagree a little
- Disagree a lot

- a) I am content with my profession as a teacher
- b) I am satisfied with being a teacher at this school
- c) I would describe the teachers at this school as a satisfied group
- d) I had more enthusiasm when I began teaching than I have now
- e) I do important work as a teacher

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

_________ minutes

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