Your school has agreed to participate in PIRLS 2016 (Progress in International Reading Literacy Study), an educational research project sponsored by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA). PIRLS measures trends in student achievement in reading and studies differences in national education systems in more than 50 countries in order to help improve teaching and learning worldwide.

This questionnaire is addressed to teachers of fourth grade students, and seeks information about teachers’ academic and professional backgrounds, classroom resources, instructional practices, and attitudes toward teaching. Since your class has been selected as part of a nationwide sample, your responses are very important in helping to describe primary/elementary education in the United States.

Some of the questions in the questionnaire refer to the “PIRLS class” or “this class.” This is the class that is identified on the front of this booklet, and which will be tested as part of PIRLS in your school. If you teach some but not all of the students in the PIRLS class, please think only of the students that you teach when answering these class-specific questions. It is important that you answer each question carefully so that the information that you provide reflects your situation as accurately as possible.

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 you will need approximately 35 minutes to complete this questionnaire. We appreciate the time and effort that this takes and thank you for your cooperation and contribution.

When you have completed the questionnaire, please place it in the accompanying envelope and return it to the PIRLS school coordinator.

Your responses will be combined with those from other participants to produce summary statistics and reports.

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

_____________ years
Please round to the nearest whole number.

2. Are you female or male?

Check one circle only.

Female --- ○
Male --- ○

3. How old are you?

Check one circle only.

Under 25 --- ○
25–29 --- ○
30–39 --- ○
40–49 --- ○
50–59 --- ○
60 or more --- ○

4. What is the highest level of formal education you have completed?

Check one circle only.

Did not complete high school --- ○
Completed high school --- ○
Completed a 2-year college or university degree (i.e., Associate's degree) --- ○
Completed a 4-year college or university degree (i.e., Bachelor's degree) --- ○
Completed a Master's degree, postgraduate certificate program (e.g., teaching), or professional degree (e.g., law, medicine, dentistry) --- ○
Completed a doctorate (Ph.D. or Ed.D) --- ○

5. A. During your college or university education, what was your major or main area(s) of study?

Check one circle for each line.

Yes No

a) Education—Primary/Elementary
b) Education—Secondary
c) English
d) Other

B. 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
b) Literature
c) Pedagogy/teaching reading
d) Educational psychology
e) Remedial reading
f) Reading theory
g) Special education
h) Second language learning
i) Assessment methods in reading
j) Early childhood education
6 In the past two years, how many hours in total have you spent in formal professional development (e.g., workshops, seminars, lesson studies, etc.) 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

7 How would you characterize each of the following within your school?

Check one circle for each line.

Check one circle only.

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

a) Teachers’ understanding of the school’s curricular goals

b) Teachers’ degree of success in implementing the school’s curriculum

c) Teachers’ expectations for student achievement

d) Teachers’ ability to inspire students

e) Collaboration between school leadership (including master teachers) and teachers to plan instruction

f) Parental involvement in school activities

g) Parental commitment to ensure that students are ready to learn

h) Parental expectations for student achievement

i) Parental support for student achievement

j) Students’ desire to do well in school

k) Students’ ability to reach school’s academic goals

l) Students’ respect for classmates who excel academically
Thinking about your current school, indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

Check one circle for each line.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agree a lot</th>
<th>Agree a little</th>
<th>Disagree a little</th>
<th>Disagree a lot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| a) This school is located in a safe neighborhood
b) I feel safe at this school
c) This school's security policies and practices are sufficient
d) The students behave in an orderly manner
e) The students are respectful of the teachers
f) The students respect school property
g) This school has clear rules about student conduct
h) This school's rules are enforced in a fair and consistent manner |

How often do you have the following types of interactions with other teachers?

Check one circle for each line.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very often</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Never or almost never</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| a) Share what I have learned about my teaching experiences
b) Observe another classroom to learn more about teaching
c) Work together to improve how to teach a particular topic
d) Work with teachers from other schools on the curriculum
e) Work with teachers from other grades to ensure continuity in learning |

How often do you feel the following way about being a teacher?

Check one circle for each line.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very often</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Never or almost never</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| a) I am content with my profession as a teacher
b) I find my work full of meaning and purpose
c) I am enthusiastic about my job
d) My work inspires me
e) I am proud of the work I do |
About Teaching Reading to the PIRLS Class

11  
A. How many students are in this class?  
_____________ students  
Write in the number.

B. How many of the students in #11A are in fourth grade?  
_____________ fourth grade students  
Write in the number.

12  
How many fourth grade students experience difficulties understanding spoken English?  
_____________ students in this class  
Write in the number.

13  
A. How many students need remedial instruction in reading?  
_____________ fourth grade students in this class  
Write in the number.

B. How many of the students in #13A receive remedial instruction in reading?  
_____________ students  
Write in the number.

14  
How many students in the class are advanced readers?  
_____________ fourth grade students in this class  
Write in the number.

15  
In your view, to what extent do the following limit how you teach this class?  
Check one circle for each line.  

Check one circle for each line.  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Limitation</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>Some</th>
<th>A lot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Students lacking prerequisite knowledge or skills</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Students suffering from lack of basic nutrition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Students suffering from not enough sleep</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Students absent from class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Disruptive students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Uninterested students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Students with mental, emotional, or psychological impairment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) Lack of support for using information technology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
16. 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.

_____________ minutes per week
Write in the number of minutes per week. Please convert the number of hours into minutes.

17. 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.

_____________ minutes per week
Write in the number of minutes per week. Please convert the number of hours into minutes.

18. 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.

Always or almost always

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></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>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) I create same-ability groups</td>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○</td>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) I create mixed-ability groups</td>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○</td>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) I use individualized instruction for reading</td>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○</td>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Students work independently on an assigned plan or goal</td>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○</td>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</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 (in print or digitally)?

**Check one circle for each line.**

### A. Literary Reading Materials

- **a)** Short stories (e.g., fables, fairy tales, action stories, science fiction, detective stories)

### B. Informational Reading Materials

- **a)** Nonfiction subject area books or textbooks
- **b)** Longer nonfiction books with chapters
- **c)** Nonfiction articles that describe and explain about things, people, events, or how things work

---

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

**Check one circle for each line.**

### a) Read aloud to students
- Every day or almost every day
- Once or twice a week
- Once or twice a month
- Never or almost never

### b) Ask students to read aloud

### c) Ask students to read silently on their own

### d) Teach students strategies for decoding sounds and words

### e) Teach students new vocabulary systematically

### f) Teach students how to summarize the main ideas

### g) Teach or model skimming or scanning strategies
21. How often do you do the following in teaching reading to this class?

*Check one circle for each line.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>a</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Every or almost every lesson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About half the lessons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some lessons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- a) Provide reading materials that match the students' interests
- b) Provide materials that are appropriate for the reading levels of individual students
- c) Link new content to students' prior knowledge
- d) Encourage students to develop their understandings of the text
- e) Encourage student discussions of texts
- f) Encourage students to challenge the opinion expressed in the text
- g) Use multiple perspectives (among students and texts) to enrich understanding
- h) Give students time to read books of their own choosing
- i) Give individualized feedback to each student

22. 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.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>a</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Every day or almost every day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Once or twice a week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Once or twice a month</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never or almost never</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- a) Locate information within the text
- b) Identify the main ideas of what they have read
- c) Explain or support their understanding of what they have read
- d) Compare what they have read with experiences they have had
- e) Compare what they have read with other things they have read
- f) Make predictions about what will happen next in the text they are reading
- g) Make generalizations and draw inferences based on what they have read
- h) Describe the style or structure of the text they have read
- i) Determine the author's perspective or intention
23 After students have read something, how often do you ask them to do the following?

Check one circle for each line.

Check day or almost every day

Every day or almost every day

Once or twice a week

Once or twice a month

Never or almost never

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

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

c) Talk with each other about what they have read

d) Take a written quiz or test about what they have read

24 A. Do the students in this class have computers (including tablets) available to use for their reading lessons?

Check one circle only.

Yes --- ○
No --- ○

(If No, go to #25)

If Yes,

B. What access do the students have to computers?

Check one circle for each line.

Yes

No

a) Each student has a computer

b) The class has computers that students can share

c) The school has computers that the class can use sometimes

C. How often do you do the following computer activities during reading lessons?

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) Ask students to read digital texts

b) Teach students strategies for reading digital texts

c) Teach students to be critical when reading on the Internet

d) Ask students to look up information (e.g., facts, definitions, etc.)

e) Ask students to research a particular topic or problem

f) Ask students to write stories or other texts
25

A. Do you have a library or reading corner in your classroom?

*Check one circle only.*

Yes ---

No --- (If No, go to #26)

B. About how many books are in your classroom library?

*Check one circle only.*

0–25 ---

26–50 ---

51–100 ---

More than 100 ---

C. About how many magazines with different titles are in your classroom library?

*Check one circle only.*

0 ---

1–2 ---

3–5 ---

More than 5 ---

D. 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 ---

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

*Check one circle only.*

Yes ---

No ---

26

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

*Check one circle only.*

At least once or twice a week ---

Once or twice a month ---

A few times a year ---

Never or almost never ---
27. How often do you assign reading as part of homework (for any subject)?

Check one circle only.

- I do not assign reading for homework ---
- Less than once a week ---
- 1 or 2 times a week ---
- 3 or 4 times a week ---
- Every day ---

(Go to #30)

28. 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 ---

29. How often do you do the following with the reading homework assignments for this class?

Check one circle for each line.

- Always or almost always
- Sometimes
- Never or almost never

a) Correct assignments and give feedback to students
b) Discuss the homework in class
c) Monitor whether or not the homework was completed

30. Are the following resources available to you to work with students who have difficulty with reading?

Check one circle for each line.

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never

a) A specialized professional (e.g., reading specialist, speech therapist)
b) A teacher-aide
c) An adult/parent volunteer

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

Check one circle for each line.

- Yes
- No

a) I have the student work with a specialized professional (e.g., reading specialist, speech therapist)
b) I wait to see if performance improves with maturation
c) I spend more time working on reading individually with that student
d) I ask the parents to help the student with reading
e) I recommend that the student be enrolled in a special reading program
### Assessing Reading

#### 32

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) Assessment of students’ ongoing work</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Classroom tests (for example, teacher-made or textbook tests)</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) State or district achievement tests</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you for the thought, time, and effort you have put into completing this questionnaire.
Teacher Questionnaire

Grade 4