DRAFT

Identification Label		
Teacher Name:		
Class Name:		
Teacher ID:		
Teacher Link #:		

TIMSS 2011

Field Test Version

Teacher Questionnaire Science

Grade 8

OMB # to go here

National Center for Education Statistics U.S. Department of Education 1990 K St., NW Washington, DC 20006



Teacher Questionnaire

Your school has agreed to participate in TIMSS 2011 (Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study), an educational research project sponsored by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA). TIMSS measures trends in student achievement in mathematics and science and studies differences in national education systems in more than 60 countries in order to help improve teaching and learning worldwide.

This questionnaire is addressed to teachers of eighth-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 secondary education in the United States.

Some of the questions in the questionnaire refer to the "TIMSS 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 TIMSS in your school. If you teach some but not all of the students in the TIMSS 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 TIMSS 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 studies.

It is estimated that you will need approximately 30 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 school coordinator.

NCES is authorized to collect information from this questionnaire under the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-279, Section 153). You do not have to provide the information requested. However, the information you provide will help the U.S. Department of Education's ongoing efforts to understand better how the educational system in the United States compares to that in other countries. There are no penalties should you choose not to participate in this study. Your answers may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose (Public Law 107-279, Section 183 and Title V, subtitle A of the E-Government Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-347)). Your responses will be combined with those from other participants to produce summary statistics and reports.

This survey is estimated to take an average of 30 minutes, including time for reviewing instructions, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: Stephen Provasnik, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street NW, Room 9034, Washington, DC 20006-5650. Do not return the completed form to this address.

Thank you.

TIMSS 2011

By the end of this school year, how many years will you have been teaching altogether?	During your college or uni what was your <u>major or m</u>	•
years	C	Theck one circle for each line
Please round to the nearest whole number.		Yes No
_	b) Physics	
2 American de conselez	c) Chemistry	
Are you female or male?	d) Earth Science	
Check one circle only. Female	e) Education - Science	·····
Male	f) Mathematics	0 0
Mulc	g) Education - Mathematics	
3	h) Education - Other	0 0
How old are you?	i) Other	0 0
Check one circle only.	ij Valei	
Under 25 🔘		
25-29		
30-39		
40-49		
50-59		
60 or more		
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 vocational/technical certificate after high school		
Completed an Associate's degree (AA) in vocational/technical program		
Completed an Associate's degree (AA) or Bachelor's degree		
Completed an academic Master's degree, postgraduate certificate program (e.g., teaching) or first professional degree (e.g., law, medicine, dentistry)		

Completed a doctorate (Ph.D. or Ed.D) --

6

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

Check **one** circle for each line.

		Very h	igh			
			High			
				Mediun	n	
					Low	
						Ver
a)	Teachers' job satisfaction	\(\) - ())-())-()—	lo
b)	Teachers' understanding of the school's curricular goals	\(\) — ()-()-()—	
c)	Teachers' degree of success in implementing the school's curriculum	\() - ()-()-()—	
d)	Teachers' expectations for student achievement	\() - ()-()-()—	
e)	Parental support for studentac hievement	()()-()-()—	
f)	Parental involvement in school activities	()()-()-()—	
g)	Students' regard for school property	()()—()-()—	
h)	Students' desire to do well in school	() ()—()-()—	

7

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.

	Agree a lot
	Agree a little
	Disagree a little
	Disagree a lot
a) This school is located in a safe neighborhood	0-0-0-0
b) I feel safe at this school	$\bigcirc -\bigcirc -\bigcirc -\bigcirc$
c) This school's security policies and practices are sufficient	0-0-0-0
d) The students behave in an orderly manner	0-0-0-0
e) The students are respectful of the teachers	0-0-0-0

8

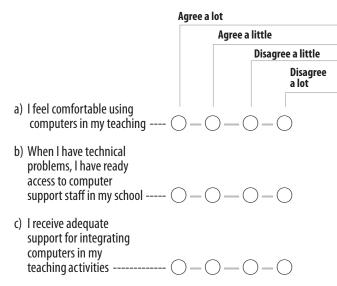
In your current school, how severe is each problem?

'	Check one chicle for each fine.
	Not a problem
	Minor problem
	Moderate problem
	Serious problem
a) The school building needs significant repair	0-0-0
b) Classrooms are overcrowded	$\bigcirc -\bigcirc -\bigcirc -\bigcirc$
c) Teachers have too many teaching hours	0-0-0
d) Teachers do not have adequate workspace for preparation, collaboration, or meeting with students	0-0-0
e) Teachers do not have adequate instructional materials and supplies	$\bigcirc -\bigcirc -\bigcirc -\bigcirc$

9

How much do you agree with the following statements about using computers in your teaching?

Check **one** circle for each line.



10 .

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

		Never or a	almost n	ever	
			2 or 3 tiı	nes per n	nonth
				1-3 time per wee	
					Daily or almost daily
a)	Discuss how to teach a particular topic ())-C)—()-()
o)	Collaborate in planning and preparing instructional materials ()-()—()-()
c)	Share what I have learned about my teaching experiences ()-()—()-()
d)	Visit another classroom to learn more about teaching - ()-()—()-()
e)	Work together to try out new ideas ()-()—()-()

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 (0-0-0
c) I had more enthusiasm when I began teaching than I have now (0-0-0
d) I do important work as a teacher (0-0-0
e) I plan to continue as a teacher for as long as I can (0-0-0
f) I am frustrated as a teacher ($\bigcirc -\bigcirc -\bigcirc -\bigcirc$

How many students are	in this class?
Write in a number.	
How many students exp understanding <u>spoken</u>	
eighth-g Write in a number.	rade students in this class
How often do you do th	ne following in teaching t
	Check one circle for each line
	Every or almost every lesson
	Every or almost every lesson About half the lessons
	About half the lessons Some lessons
a) Summarize what students should have learned from the lesson	About half the lessons Some lessons Neve
should have learned from	About half the lessons Some lessons Neve

d) Encourage all students to improve their performance --- — — — — —

good effort -----

f) Bring interesting materials to class -----

e) Praise students for

15 .

In your view, to what extent do the following limit how you teach this class?

Check **one** circle for each line.

	Not applicable
	Not at all
	Some
	A lot
a) Students lacking prerequisite knowledge or skills	
b) Students suffering from lack of basic nutrition	
c) Students suffering from not enough sleep	
d) Students with special needs (e.g., physical disabilities, mental or emotional/ psychological impairment) -	
e) Disruptives tudents	
f) Uninteresteds tudents	

16

For the typical student in this class, how often do you do these things?

	At least once a v	week	
	Once o	or twice a month	
		4-6 times a year	
		1-3 times a year	
a) Meet or talk indivi with the student's to discuss his/her learning progress	parents	Never	
b) Send home a prog report on the stud learning		0-0-0	

Teaching Science to the Class with the TIMSS students

Questions 17-19 ask about science instruction for the <u>eighth-grade</u> students in the class with the TIMSS students.

In a typical week, how much time do you spend teaching science to the students in this class?			
In teaching science to this class, how confident do you feel to do the following? Check one circle for each line. Very confident Somewhat confident Not confident b) Explain science concepts or principles by doing science experiments c) Provide challenging tasks for capable students d) Adapt my teaching to engage students' interest e) Help students appreciate the value of learning			
you feel to do the following? Check one circle for each line. Very confident Somewhat confident Not confident a) Answer students' questions about science b) Explain science concepts or principles by doing science experiments c) Provide challenging tasks for capable students d) Adapt my teaching to engage students' interest e) Help students appreciate the value of learning			
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Very confident Somewhat confident Not confident Not confident Somewhat confident Not confident Somewhat confident Not confident Not confident Confident Somewhat confident Not confident Not confident Somewhat confident Not confident Somewhat confident Not confi		_	
Somewhat confident Not confident a) Answer students' questions about science b) Explain science concepts or principles by doing science experiments c) Provide challenging tasks for capable students d) Adapt my teaching to engage students' interest e) Help students appreciate the value of learning			Check one circle for each line.
Not confident a) Answer students' questions about science b) Explain science concepts or principles by doing science experiments c) Provide challenging tasks for capable students d) Adapt my teaching to engage students' interest e) Help students appreciate the value of learning			Very confident
a) Answer students' questions about science b) Explain science concepts or principles by doing science experiments c) Provide challenging tasks for capable students d) Adapt my teaching to engage students' interest e) Help students appreciate the value of learning			Somewhat confident
about science			Not confident
or principles by doing science experiments c) Provide challenging tasks for capable students d) Adapt my teaching to engage students' interest e) Help students appreciate the value of learning		a) Answer students' questions about science	
for capable students d) Adapt my teaching to engage students' interest e) Help students appreciate the value of learning		or principles by doing	
engage students' interest — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —			
the value of learning		d) Adapt my teaching to engage students' interest	
science		e) Help students appreciate the value of learning science	

19 ____

In teaching science to the students in this class, how often do you usually ask them to do the following?

	Every or almost every lesson
	About half the lessons
	Some lessons
	Never
a) Observe natural phenomena and describe what they see	-0-0-0
b) Watch me demonstrate an experiment or investigation	-0-0-0
c) Design or plan experiments or investigations	-0-0-0
d) Conduct experiments or investigations	-0-0-0
e) Read their textbooks or other resource materials	-0-0-0
f) Have students memorize facts and principles	-0-0-0
g) Use scientific formulas and laws to solve routine problems	-0-0-0
h) Give explanations about something they are studying	-0-0-0
i) Relate what they are learning in science to their daily lives	-0-0-0
j) Do field work outside of class	-0-0-0
k) Take a written test or quiz	

Resources for Science Instruction

Questions 20-21 ask about resources for teaching science to the <u>eighth-grade</u> students in the class with the TIMSS students.

20 -

When you teach science to this class, how often do you use the following resources?

Check **one** circle for each line.

	Basis for instruction
	Supplement
	Not used
a) Textbooks (
b) Workbooks or worksheets (0-0-0
c) Science equipment and materials (0-0-0
d) Computer software for science instruction (e.g., CD, DVD, Internet) (0-0-0
e) Reference materials (e.g., encyclopedia, dictionary) (0-0-0

21

A. Do the students in this class have computer(s) available to use during their science lessons?

Yes--- (If No, go to #22)

B. Do any of the computer(s) have access to the Internet?

Check **one** circle only.

Yes---
No---

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

		Every o	r almost (every day	/
			Once or	twice a v	week
				Once or month	twice a
					Never or almost never
a) Look up ideas and information ())-()—()-(
b) Use instructional software to develop and practice skills and procedures ()-()-()-(
C) Do scientific procedures or experiments ()-()—()-(
d) Study natural phenomena through simulations ()-()—()-(
e) Process and analyze data ()-()—()-(
f) Use the school website for homework assignments ($\bigcirc -($)—()-(

Science Topics Taught

Questions 22-23 ask about the topics taught and the content covered in teaching science to the <u>eighth-grade</u> students in the class with the TIMSS students.

22 I

The following list includes the main topics addressed by the TIMSS science test. Choose the response that best describes when the students in this class have been taught each topic. If a topic was taught half this year but not yet completed, please choose "Mostly taught this year." If a topic is not in the curriculum, please choose "Not yet taught or just introduced."

	Check one circle for each line.	
	Mostly taught before this year	
	Mostly taught this year	
	Not yet taught or just introduced	
A. Biology		
a) Major organs and organ systems in humans and other organisms (structure/function, life processes that maintain stable bodily conditions)		
b) Cells and their functions, including respiration and photosynthesis as cellular processes		
c) Reproduction (sexual and asexual) and heredity (passing on of traits, inherited versus acquired/learned characteristics)		
d) Role of variation and adaptation in survival/extinction of species in a changing environment		
e) Interdependence of populations of organisms in an ecosystem (e.g., energy flow, food webs, competition, predation) and the impact of changes in the physical environment on populations (e.g., climate, water supply)		
f) Reasons for increase in world's human population (e.g., advances in medicine, sanitation), and the effects of population growth on the environment		
g) Human health (causes of infectious diseases, methods of infection, prevention, immunity) and the importance of diet and exercise in maintaining health		
B. Chemistry		
a) Classification, composition, and particulate structure of matter (elements, compounds, mixtures, molecules, atoms, protons, neutrons, electrons)		
b) Solutions (solvent, solute, concentration/dilution, effect of temperature on solubility)		
c) Properties and uses of common acids and bases		
d) Chemical change (transformation of reactants, evidence of chemical change, conservation of matter, common oxidation reactions – combustion, rusting, tarnishing)		

22

The following list includes the main topics addressed by the TIMSS science test. Choose the response that best describes when the students in this class have been taught each topic. If a topic was taught half this year but not yet completed, please choose "Mostly taught this year." If a topic is not in the curriculum, please choose "Not yet taught or just introduced."

	Check one circle for each lin	
	Mostly taught before this year	
	Mostly taught this year	
	Not yet taught or just introduced	
C. Physics		
a) Physical states and changes in matter (explanations of properties in terms of movement and distance between particles; phase change, thermal expansion, and changes in volume and/or pressure)	-0-0-0	
b) Energy forms, transformations, heat, and temperature		
c) Basic properties/behaviors of light (reflection, refraction, light and color, simple ray diagrams) and sound (transmission through media, loudness, pitch, amplitude, frequency, relative speed of light and sound)	-	
d) Electric circuits (flow of current; types of circuits - parallel/series; current/voltage relationship) and properties and uses of permanent magnets and electromagnets	-0-0-0	
f) Forces and motion (types of forces, basic description of motion, effects of density and pressure)		
D. Earth Science		
a) Earth's structure and physical features (Earth's crust, mantle and core; composition and relative distribution of water, and composition of air)		
b) Earth's processes, cycles and history (rock cycle; water cycle; weather patterns; major geological events; formation of fossils and fossil fuels)	-0-0-0	
c) Earth's resources, their use and conservation (e.g., renewable/nonrenewable resources, human use of land/soil, water resources)	-0-0-0	
d) Earth in the solar system and the universe (phenomena on Earth - day/night, tides, phases of moon, eclipses, seasons; physical features of Earth compared to other bodies; the Sun as a star)	-0-0-0	

Science Content Coverage

23

By the end of this school year, approximately what percentage of teaching time will you have spent during this school year on each of the following science content areas for the students in this class?

Write in the percentage for each.

a)	Biology (e.g., structure/function; life processes, reproduction/heredity, natural selection; ecosystems, human health)	<u></u> %
b)	Chemistry (e.g., classification, composition and properties of matter; chemical change)	%
c)	Physics (e.g., physical states/ changes in matter; energy; light; sound; electricity and magnetism; forces and motion)	%
d)	Earth science (e.g., Earth's structure, processes, and resources; the solar system and universe)	%
e)	Other, please specify:	
		%
		Total = 100%

Science Homework

Question 24 asks about science homework for the <u>eighth-grade</u> students in the class with the TIMSS students.

24

A. How often do you usually assign science homework to the students in this class?

Check one circle only.
I do not assign science homework (Go to #25)
Less than once a week
1 or 2 times a week
3 or 4 times a week
Fverv day

B. When you assign science homework to the students in this class, about how many minutes do you usually assign? (Consider the time it would take an average student in your class.)

	Check one circle only.
15 minutes or less	\bigcirc
16-30 m inutes	\bigcirc
31-60 mi nutes	\bigcirc
61-90 m inutes	\bigcirc
More than 90 minutes	\bigcirc

C. How often do you do the following with the science homework assignments for this class?

	Always o	r almost	always
		Sometir	nes
			Never or almost Never
a)	Correct assignments and give feedback to students —)—(
b)	Have students correct their own homework)—(
c)	Discuss the homework in class)—(
d)	Monitor whether or not the homework was completed —)—(
e)	Use the homework to contribute towards students' grades or marks)—()

Science Assessment

Questions 25-27 ask about science assessment for the eighth-grade students in the class with the TIMSS students.

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

Check one circle for each line.

		Major emphasis			
		Some emphasis			
				Little or no emphasis	
a) Evaluation of ongoing wo	of students' rk ()-()—(
	ests (for acher made or sts) ()-()-(\supset	
c) State or dist achievemer	rict It tests ()-()—(

How often do you give a science test or examination to this class? (Do not include quizzes.)

	Check one circle only.
About once a week	\bigcirc
About every two weeks	\bigcirc
About once a month	\bigcirc
A few times a year	\bigcirc
Never	\bigcirc

27 ____

How often do you include the following types of questions in your science tests or examinations? (Do not include quizzes.)

Check one circle for each line.

AI	ways or almost always
	Sometimes
	Never or almost never
a) Questions based on knowing facts and concepts	-0-0
b) Questions based on the application of knowledge and understanding	-0-0
c) Questions involving developing hypotheses and designing scientific investigations	-0-0
d) Questions requiring explanations or justifications	-0-0

Preparation to Teach Science

28 ____

In the past two years, have you participated in professional development in any of the following?

	Yes
	No
a) Science content ($\bigcirc -\bigcirc$
b) Science pedagogy/instruction ($\bigcirc -\bigcirc$
c) Science curriculum ($\bigcirc -\bigcirc$
d) Integrating information technology into science ()-()
e) Improving students' critical thinking or problem solving skills ()-O
f) Science assessment ($\bigcirc -\bigcirc$
g) Addressing individual students' needs ($\bigcirc -\bigcirc$

How well prepared do you feel you are to teach the following science topics?
If a topic is not in the curriculum or you are not responsible for teaching this topic you may check "not applicable."

	Not applicable	
	Very well prepared	
	Somewhat prepared	
	Not well prepared	
A. Biology		
a) Major organs and organ systems in humans and other organisms (structure/function,life processes that maintain stable bodily conditions)	-0-0-0	
b) Cells and their functions, including respiration and photosynthesis as cellular processes		
c) Reproduction (sexual and asexual) and heredity (passing on of traits, inherited versus acquired/learned characteristics)		
d) Role of variation and adaptation in survival/extinction of species in a changing environment		
e) Interdependence of populations of organisms in an ecosystem (e.g., energy flow, food webs, competition, predation) and the impact of changes in the physical environment on populations (e.g., climate, water supply)		
f) Reasons for increase in world's human population (e.g., advances in medicine, sanitation), and the effects of population growth on the environment		
g) Human health (causes of infectious diseases, methods of infection, prevention, immunity) and the importance of diet and exercise in maintaining health		
B. Chemistry		
a) Classification, composition, and particulate structure of matter (elements, compounds, mixtures, molecules, atoms, protons, neutrons, electrons)		
b) Solutions (solvent, solute, concentration/dilution, effect of temperature on solubility)		
c) Properties and uses of common acids and bases		
d) Chemical change (transformation of reactants, evidence of chemical change, conservation of matter, common oxidation reactions — combustion, rusting, tarnishing)		

29 ___

How well prepared do you feel you are to teach the following science topics?
If a topic is not in the curriculum or you are not responsible for teaching this topic you may check "not applicable."

	Not applicable
	Very well prepared
	Somewhat prepared
	Not well prepare
C. Physics	
a) Physical states and changes in matter (explanations of properties in terms of movement and distance between particles; phase change, thermal expansion, and changes in volume and/or pressure)	
b) Energy forms, transformations, heat, and temperature	
c) Basic properties/behaviors of light (reflection, refraction, light and color, simple ray diagrams) and sound (transmission through media, loudness, pitch, amplitude, frequency, relative speed of light and sound)	
d) Electric circuits (flow of current; types of circuits - parallel/series; current/voltage relationship) and prope and uses of permanent magnets and electromagnets	erties
e) Forces and motion (types of forces, basic description of motion, effects of density, and pressure)	
D. Earth Science	
a) Earth's structure and physical features (Earth's crust, mantle and core; composition and relative distribution of water, and composition of air)	on
b) Earth's processes, cycles and history (rock cycle; water cycle; weather patterns; major geological events; formation of fossils and fossil fuels)	
c) Earth's resources, their use and conservation (e.g., renewable/nonrenewable resources, human use of land/soil, water resources)	
d) Earth in the solar system and the universe (phenomena on Earth - day/night, tides, phases of moon, eclip seasons; physical features of Earth compared to other bodies; the Sun as a star)	oses,

[The following questions are national options that will be added to the questionnaire. They will be formatted and appropriately placed among the existing items.]

1. Science course currently being taught

Which best describes the science course you are teaching to the class with the TIMSS students?

Fill in one circle only.

taught separately)O
Integrated science (several content areas of science combined and taught together throughout the year) O
Life science (e.g., biology, ecosystems, human health) C
Physical science (e.g., physics or chemistry) C
Earth science (e.g., geology, earth and the solar system, fossils)

Thank You

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

TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center

Lynch School of Education, Boston College timssandpirls.bc.edu



DRAFT

TIMSS 2011

Field Test Version

Teacher
Questionnaire
Science

Grade 8



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