

The Early Childhood Longitudinal Study (ECLS) Presentation for Teachers

What is the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study (ECLS)?

The ECLS is a **national education program** that provides important information about children's knowledge, skills, and social and emotional development from birth through elementary school.

It gathers information from children, parents/guardians, teachers, and school administrators to provide a **complete picture of children's learning experiences.**

The ECLS is conducted by the U.S. Department of Education. The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) within the Department's Institute of Education Sciences (IES) coordinates the ECLS.

NCES is working with Westat, a U.S.-based research organization, to conduct the study across the country.



When will the study be conducted?

Selected schools will participate in the **field test phase** of the ECLS. The field test will be conducted among a diverse group of schools and children to make sure that in the next administration of the study outcomes are regionally, culturally, and socioeconomically representative.

The ECLS team will conduct the field test in our school over the course of 3 to 5 days between **August and November 2021.**



Who will take part in the field test?



The study team will ask eligible **kindergarten** (including transitional kindergartens and pre-first grade classes), **first-grade**, and **second-grade students** to participate.

School administrators, teachers, and parents/guardians of participating students will also be asked to complete surveys as part of the study.

What will my students do?

Your students, with their parents' or guardians' consent, will answer engaging, age-appropriate **math and reading-related questions** in one-on-one sessions with a trained ECLS team member.

- 🍎 The ECLS team member will read and show illustrated tasks to the student, who can respond verbally or by pointing to their answer. Children have enjoyed answering these types of questions in previous ECLS studies.
- 🍎 The sessions will take place at school, during school hours, in a room such as the gym or library. School staff are welcome to be in the room during the sessions.
- 🍎 The sessions are untimed but are expected to last **about 45 minutes** for most children. Children can skip any questions they do not want to answer. Any child who does not want to work with the ECLS team member will not have to do so.

As a teacher, what will I do?

The ECLS team will ask you to complete a web survey about **you and your classroom**, as well as a survey about the **skills and knowledge of each of your participating students**.

Each survey will take 15 to 35 minutes. You can complete them at a time and place that is convenient for you.



You will not be asked to conduct the study activities with students.

What will my students' parents or guardians do?




Your students' parents or guardians will also complete a web survey. It will take them 30 to 45 minutes to complete.

The survey will ask parents **questions about their families, their child's experiences, and more to gain a better understanding of their child's learning and development.**



How can the ECLS help my students and our school?

The ECLS explores how different factors—at home and at school—relate to children’s development and learning. Through reports from the U.S. Department of Education and others, you can learn about topics such as:

-  Meeting the needs of English language learners through professional development.
-  The use of individual digital devices in first-grade classrooms and the development of early literacy.
-  Large group, small group, and individual activities in full-day kindergarten classrooms and children’s early learning.

How will privacy be protected for me, my students, and their families?

Teachers, schools, students, and families will not be identified in any ECLS reports. **Information will be combined from all participants to produce reports for the nation as a whole.**

All of the information provided by children, families, teachers, and principals may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose except as required by law (20 U.S.C. §9573 and 6 U.S.C. §151). All staff working on the study have signed an affidavit of non-disclosure where they swear to abide by this law.

Where can I find more information?

You can learn more about this field test at MyECLS.ed.gov.

You can see examples of questions from previous ECLS studies, find study reports, and learn more about the ECLS program at nces.ed.gov/ecls/.

You can call the ECLS information number, **1-855-898-2018**, or send an email to ECLS@westat.com.



Thank you for your time and efforts in helping to make the ECLS a success!