



Student Background Questionnaire

2015

Grade 8



SECTION 1

Section 1

National Indian Education Study Grade 8 Student Questionnaire

Some of the questions are about your American Indian or Alaska Native background. When you answer these questions, think about the American Indian tribe or Alaska Native group to which you and your family belong. You may call your tribe or group a nation, a village, a band, or a community.

If you are connected to more than one American Indian tribe or Alaska Native group, answer for the one you know best.

VC996578

1. How much do you know about each of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Nothing	A little	Some	A lot
a. Your American Indian or Alaska Native history	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D
b. Your American Indian or Alaska Native traditions and culture (way of life, customs)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D
c. Issues today that are important to American Indian or Alaska Native people	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D

VC996581

VC996582

VC996583

VH039733

2. Who taught you **most** of what you know about American Indian or Alaska Native history?

- ☐ A No one has taught me about American Indian or Alaska Native history.
- ☐ B Family members
- ☐ C Friends
- ☐ D Teachers
- ☐ E Tribal representatives or elders
- ☐ F Someone else (please specify): _____

Section 1

VH039760

3. Who taught you **most** of what you know about American Indian or Alaska Native traditions (ways of life, customs)?

- Ⓐ No one has taught me about American Indian or Alaska Native traditions.
- Ⓑ Family members
- Ⓒ Friends
- Ⓓ Teachers
- Ⓔ Tribal representatives or elders
- Ⓕ Someone else (please specify): _____

VH039931

4. Who taught you **most** of what you know about issues today that are important to American Indian or Alaska Native people?

- Ⓐ No one has taught me about issues today that are important to American Indian or Alaska Native people.
- Ⓑ Family members
- Ⓒ Friends
- Ⓓ Teachers
- Ⓔ Tribal representatives or elders
- Ⓕ Someone else (please specify): _____

VC996584

5. How often have you participated in each of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never	Every few years	At least once a year	Several times a year	
a. Ceremonies and gatherings for people from your American Indian tribe or Alaska Native group	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC996586
b. Ceremonies and gatherings that bring people together from many different American Indian tribes or Alaska Native groups	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC996587
c. Other American Indian or Alaska Native activities	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC996589

VC759193

6. How often do members of your family talk to each other in your American Indian or Alaska Native language?

- ☐ A Never or hardly ever
- ☐ B Once or twice a month
- ☐ C Once or twice a week
- ☐ D Every day or almost every day

VC759195

7. How often do people in your school talk to each other in your American Indian or Alaska Native language?

- ☐ A Never or hardly ever
- ☐ B Once or twice a month
- ☐ C Once or twice a week
- ☐ D Every day or almost every day

VH153907

8. How often do you attend classes **in school** that are taught in an American Indian or Alaska Native language?

- Ⓐ My school does not offer classes that are taught in an American Indian or Alaska Native language.
- Ⓑ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓒ Once or twice a month
- Ⓓ Once or twice a week
- Ⓔ Every day or almost every day

VH040050

9. How do you rate yourself in speaking an American Indian or Alaska Native language?

- Ⓐ I cannot speak an American Indian or Alaska Native language.
- Ⓑ I can speak a few words or phrases.
- Ⓒ I can speak well.

VH040067

10. How do you rate yourself in reading an American Indian or Alaska Native language?

- Ⓐ I cannot read in an American Indian or Alaska Native language.
- Ⓑ I can read a few words or phrases.
- Ⓒ I can read well.



VH040082

11. Who taught you **most** of what you know about an American Indian or Alaska Native language?

- Ⓐ No one has taught me about an American Indian or Alaska Native language.
- Ⓑ Family members
- Ⓒ Friends
- Ⓓ Teachers
- Ⓔ Tribal representatives or elders
- Ⓕ Someone else (please specify): _____

VC996590

12. During 8th grade, how often have any of your teachers talked to your class about the history, traditions, and cultures (ways of life, customs) of American Indian or Alaska Native people?

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once or twice a month
- Ⓒ Once or twice a week
- Ⓓ Every day or almost every day

Section 1

VH158490

13. During 8th grade, have you attended any of the following activities **organized by your school**? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

- | | Yes | No | |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| a. Presentations by American Indian or Alaska Native people about their traditions and cultures (ways of life, customs) | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | VH158491 |
| b. American Indian or Alaska Native art and craft demonstrations | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | VH158492 |
| c. Traditional American Indian or Alaska Native music and/or dance performances | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | VH158493 |
| d. Field trips to museums, traditional villages, or other places to learn about American Indian or Alaska Native people | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | VH158494 |

VH040140

14. During 8th grade, have you participated in any of the following activities **organized by your school**? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

- | | Yes | No | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| a. Sports team | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | VH040143 |
| b. Music club, orchestra, or band | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | VH040147 |
| c. Cultural dances or other American Indian or Alaska Native activities (for example, drum groups) | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | VH040150 |
| d. Academic club (for example, math club) | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | VH040152 |

VH159106

15. During 8th grade, have you used books, videos, or other materials (including Internet resources) about American Indian or Alaska Native people **in school**?

Ⓐ Yes, once or twice
 Ⓑ Yes, three or more times
 Ⓒ No

VH159110

16. During 8th grade, have you used books, videos, or other materials (including Internet resources) about American Indian or Alaska Native people **outside of school**?

Ⓐ Yes, once or twice
 Ⓑ Yes, three or more times
 Ⓒ No

VH153945

17. **In school**, do you have access to a **library, media center, or resource center** with books, videos, or other materials (including Internet resources) about American Indian or Alaska Native people?

Ⓐ Yes
 Ⓑ No

VC996624

18. Here are some sentences about reading. Fill in **one** oval on each line to show whether the sentence describes a person like you.

	This is not like me.	This is a little like me.	This is a lot like me.	
a. When my teacher talks about American Indian or Alaska Native history or culture, I try to read more about it.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	VH043704
b. I enjoy reading about American Indian or Alaska Native people.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	VC996627
c. I enjoy reading about people who have different traditions and cultures (ways of life, customs) than I have.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	VC996628

Section 1

VH040130

19. Here are some sentences about your school. Fill in **one** oval on each line to show whether the sentence describes a person like you.

- | | This is
not like
me. | This is a
little like
me. | This is a
lot like
me. | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|----------|
| a. I put a lot of effort into my schoolwork. | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | VH040131 |
| b. I want to be one of the best students in my class. | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | VH040134 |
| c. I enjoy being challenged in my classes. | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | VH040137 |
| d. I feel that I belong at school. | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | VH040138 |

VH040157

20. How much do you agree with each of the following statements? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

- | | Strongly
disagree | Disagree | Agree | Strongly
agree | |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| a. If I put in enough effort, I will succeed in school. | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D | VH040158 |
| b. If I put in enough effort in school, I will get into college. | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D | VH040160 |
| c. If I put in enough effort in school, I will get a good job. | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D | VH040161 |

VC759293

21. How much do you like school?

- ☐ A Not at all
- ☐ B A little
- ☐ C Somewhat
- ☐ D Very much

VC996661

22. How much are the things you are learning in school preparing you for the life you want to lead?

- Ⓐ Not at all
- Ⓑ A little
- Ⓒ A fair amount
- Ⓓ Very much

VC996641

23. During 8th grade, how often have you talked with any of your teachers outside of regular class periods? For example, to get extra help with your assignments, to talk about issues that matter to you, or just to visit.

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once or twice a month
- Ⓒ Once or twice a week
- Ⓓ Every day or almost every day

VH040389

24. How often do **you** help other students from your school with their schoolwork? For example, you might help other students to study for a test, help them with a school project, or go over their homework with them.

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once or twice a month
- Ⓒ Once or twice a week
- Ⓓ Every day or almost every day

VC996635

25. How often do any of the following people help you with your schoolwork? For example, they might help you to study for a test, help you with a school project, or go over your homework with you. Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or hardly ever	Once or twice a month	Once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. A parent or someone else from my family	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VC996636
b. A teacher or another adult from my school	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VC996637
c. Another student	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VC996639
d. A tribal representative or elder	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VH018268

VC996644

26. During 8th grade, how many times have you talked to each of the following people about the classes you should take in high school or about what you want to do after high school? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never	One time	Two or three times	Four or more times	
a. A family member	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VC996645
b. A teacher	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VC996646
c. A school counselor	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VC996647
d. Another student	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VC996648
e. A tribal representative or elder	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VH026209
f. Someone else who lives in my community or is a friend of my family	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VH026211

VC996650

27. Which of the following would you plan to do in your first year after high school? Fill in **as many ovals as apply**.

- | | | |
|--|-----|----------|
| a. Go to college full time | (A) | VC996651 |
| b. Go to college part time | (B) | VC996652 |
| c. Go to another school (for example, career training, technical, or trade/vocational) full time | (C) | VC996653 |
| d. Go to another school (for example, career training, technical, or trade/vocational) part time | (D) | VC996654 |
| e. Join the military | (E) | VC996655 |
| f. Work full time | (F) | VC996656 |
| g. Work part time | (G) | VC996657 |
| h. Travel | (H) | VC996658 |
| i. Care for family | (I) | VC996659 |
| j. I don't know. | (J) | VC996660 |

VH040216

28. To what extent is each of the following a problem in your school? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

- | | Not at all | Small extent | Moderate extent | Large extent | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|
| a. Student tardiness | (A) | (B) | (C) | (D) | VH040217 |
| b. Student health problems | (A) | (B) | (C) | (D) | VH040219 |
| c. Student misbehavior in class | (A) | (B) | (C) | (D) | VH040221 |
| d. Physical conflicts among students | (A) | (B) | (C) | (D) | VH040223 |
| e. Bullying | (A) | (B) | (C) | (D) | VH040226 |
| f. Low student motivation | (A) | (B) | (C) | (D) | VH040227 |

Section 1

VC759294

29. Do you know the name of the American Indian tribe or Alaska Native group you belong to or are enrolled in?

- ☐ A Yes
- ☐ B No
- ☐ C I'm not sure.

VC759295

30. If you know the name of the American Indian tribe or Alaska Native group that you belong to or are enrolled in, or if you think you know it, please print it on the line below. Do not worry about spelling. If you belong to more than one American Indian tribe or Alaska Native group, write the names of as many as you know.

VC759297

31. What else would you like to say about yourself, your school, or about American Indian or Alaska Native people? Use these lines to write your ideas.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP. YOUR IDEAS ARE IMPORTANT.

