

## Civics Student Background Questionnaire

**2010 Grade 4** 

## **DIRECTIONS**

In the next two sections, you will be asked questions about yourself and your education. We will read the first section together. To answer these questions, fill in the oval beside the answer that is true for you. For example, fill in the oval beside your answer to this question:

How many movies did you see last month on television and in movie theaters?

- None
- 1 to 5
- © 6 to 10
- O More than 10

You should have filled in the oval beside the answer that best tells how many movies you saw last month on television and in movie theaters. On questions like this, be sure to make your answer mark clear and dark in the oval. If you make a mistake or want to change your answer, be sure to completely erase any unwanted marks.

You will be told when it is time to begin and end each section.

Do not go past the STOP sign at the end of each section until you are told to do so.

If you finish before time is called, go back and check your work on that section only. Use your time carefully. Do as much as you can in each section.



Page 1

Y1BD

In this section, please tell us about yourself and your family. The section has 12 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question except where instructed otherwise.

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- 1. Are you Hispanic or Latino? Fill in **one or more ovals.** 
  - (A) No, I am not Hispanic or Latino.
  - Yes, I am Mexican, Mexican American, or Chicano.
  - © Yes, I am Puerto Rican or Puerto Rican American.
  - Yes, I am Cuban or Cuban American.
  - © Yes, I am from some other Hispanic or Latino background.

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- 2. Which of the following best describes you? Fill in **one or more ovals.** 
  - White
  - ® Black or African American
  - O Asian

  - © Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

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3. Does your family get a newspaper at least four times a week?

- A Yes
- ® No
- © I don't know.

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VB331333

4. Does your family get any magazines regularly?

- A Yes
- ® No
- © I don't know.

VB33133

- 5. About how many books are there in your home?
  - **⚠** Few (0-10)
  - ® Enough to fill one shelf (11-25)
  - © Enough to fill one bookcase (26-100)
  - © Enough to fill several bookcases (more than 100)

VB331336

- 6. Is there a computer at home that you use?
  - **A** Yes
  - ® No

7. Is there an encyclopedia in your home? It could be a set of books, or it could be on the computer.

- A Yes
- ® No
- © I don't know.

TB001101

- 8. About how many pages a day do you have to read in school and for homework?
  - 5 or fewer
  - **®** 6-10
  - © 11-15
  - © 16-20
  - © More than 20

VB331339

- 9. How often do you talk about things you have studied in school with someone in your family?
  - Never or hardly ever
  - ® Once every few weeks
  - About once a week
  - Two or three times a week
  - © Every day

10. How many days were you absent from school in the last month?
None
® 1 or 2 days
© 3 or 4 days
More than 10 days
VB331451 11. How often do people in your home talk to each other in a language other than English?
Never
® Once in a while
About half of the time
All or most of the time
12. Write the ZIP code of your home address in the boxes.



This section has 26 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question.

1. How often do you study social studies in school?	5. During this school year, have you studied the president and leaders of our country?
Never or hardly ever	♠ Yes
® Once or twice a month	
© Once or twice a week	® No
Almost every day	◎ I don't know.
	VE040251
2. During this school year, have you studied how the government works?	6. During this school year, have you studied your community?
Yes	A Yes
	® No
® No	© I don't know.
© I don't know.	
3. During this school year, have you studied the rules and laws of government?	7. During this school year, have you studied the rights and responsibilities of citizens?
<u> </u>	♠ Yes
♠ Yes	® No
® No	◯ I don't know.
© I don't know.	
4. During this school year, have you studied elections and voting?	8. During this school year, have you studied how people try to solve disagreements?
A Yes	♠ Yes
® No	® No
© I don't know.	© I don't know.

VE040257

- 9. When you study social studies in school, how often do you read material from a textbook?
  - Never
  - A few times a year
  - Once or twice a month
  - Once or twice a week
  - Almost every day

VE040260

- 10. When you study social studies in school, how often do you memorize material for class?
  - Never
  - A few times a year
  - Once or twice a month
  - Once or twice a week
  - Almost every day

VE040264

- 11. When you study social studies in school, how often do you read extra materials not in your textbook, such as newspapers, magazines, maps, charts, or cartoons?
  - Never
  - A few times a year
  - © Once or twice a month
  - Once or twice a week
  - © Almost every day

VE040269

- 12. When you study social studies in school, how often do you complete a worksheet?
  - Never
  - A few times a year
  - Once or twice a month
  - Once or twice a week
  - Almost every day

VE040273

- 13. When you study social studies in school, how often do you write reports?
  - Never
  - A few times a year
  - Once or twice a month
  - Once or twice a week
  - Almost every day

VE040279

- 14. When you study social studies in school, how often do you discuss current events?
  - Never
  - A few times a year
  - Once or twice a month
  - Once or twice a week
  - Almost every day

VE040281

- 15. When you study social studies in school, how often do you watch television shows or videos in class?
  - A Never
  - A few times a year
  - Once or twice a month
  - Once or twice a week
  - Almost every day

VE040284

- 16. When you study social studies in school, how often do you discuss television shows or videos in class?
  - Never

- A few times a year
- Once or twice a month
- Once or twice a week
- Almost every day

VB594978

- 17. This year in school, how often have you been asked to write long answers to questions or assignments that involved social studies?
  - Never
  - ® Once or twice this year
  - Once or twice a month
  - At least once a week

VB594979

- 18. How often do you use computers at school for social studies?
  - Never or hardly ever
  - ® Once every few weeks
  - About once a week
  - Two or three times a week
  - © Every day

VB594980

- 19. When you study social studies, do you do research projects about social studies topics using a CD or the Internet? Include things you do in class and things you do for homework assignments.
  - A Yes
  - ® No

VE040290

- 20. When you study social studies in school, how often do you take part in debates?
  - Never
  - A few times a year
  - © Once or twice a month
  - Once or twice a week
  - Almost every day

VE040295

- 21. When you study social studies in school, how often do you take part in role-playing, mock trials, or dramas?
  - Never
  - A few times a year
  - Once or twice a month
  - Once or twice a week
  - Almost every day

VE040299

- 22. When you study social studies in school, how often do you write a letter to give your opinion or help solve a community problem?
  - Never
  - A few times a year
  - Once or twice a month
  - Once or twice a week
  - Almost every day

VE04030

- 23. When you study social studies in school, how often do you have visits from people in your community to learn about important events and ideas?
  - Never
  - A few times a year
  - Once or twice a month
  - Once or twice a week
  - Almost every day

VB595182

- 24. How hard was this test compared to most other tests you have taken this year in school?
  - Easier than other tests
  - About as hard as other tests
  - Harder than other tests
  - Much harder than other tests

VC034559

- 25. How hard did you try on this test compared to how hard you tried on most other tests you have taken this year in school?
  - Not as hard as on other tests
  - About as hard as on other tests
  - Harder than on other tests
  - Much harder than on other tests

VB595184

- 26. How important was it to you to do well on this test?
  - Not very important
  - Somewhat important
  - © Important
  - Very important

