



Hello Families Survey!

Teacher's Page

Introduction

What is the Hello Families Survey?

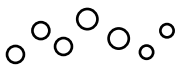
The Hello Families Survey is a brief questionnaire for families to complete at the beginning of the school year. Its purpose is to gain a better understanding of the world in which each child is being raised. Teachers who understand children's backgrounds can target instruction and employ a teaching style most effective for each child.

Why should I use the Hello Families Survey?

Education is a partnership between a teacher and a child's family. For the partnership to work, communication needs to be reciprocal. Not only should teachers communicate with families, but they should also learn from them. The Hello Families Survey gives families an opportunity to share information about their children. These insights allow teachers to inform their instruction and define ways in which to better communicate with families throughout the year.

How do I distribute the survey?

Send the survey home with children and request that their families fill it out. Pay attention to special needs, and step in to perform the survey in-person or with a translator as needed.



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Results

Don't just file away the results! Use the information to effectively help each child learn.

If a family speaks another language...

...find the best way to communicate. When communicating with linguistically diverse families, remember to keep it simple, use visual aids, and find a resource who can translate material into the family's home language when needed. Home visits or in-person or video conferences can help break down language barriers too.

If a family is culturally diverse...

...welcome them into the classroom to share their culture. Equally important: don't think you have to understand everything about their culture. Lean on other resources in the community to help with communication if needed.

If a child's family or caregiver has special needs...

...depending on the special need, you may want to reach out to someone in the school or community to find a resource who can provide targeted aid.

If a child's family does not have technology available in the home...

...connect them with a resource, such as a public library, where they can access the technology they need.

If a child hasn't been in a school or in daycare before...

...be aware that these children may take longer to learn classroom routines. Be kind and nurturing as they learn how to interact in a classroom environment.

Now that you know how a child learns best...

...use this information to get through to the child when other techniques aren't working. In flexibly managing small groups, you may want to place children with similar learning styles together.

Now that you know what a child likes to do at home...

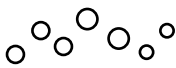
...help children who are reluctant to form friendships find classmates who like similar things. During free play or center time, suggest that they play and work together.

Now that you know a child doesn't have a reading routine at home...

...send home information about how to obtain a public library card. Recommend that families set a goal for weekly reading.

Now what do I do?

Keep the door to communication open. Find out what works best for your families and make use of email, apps, or text messages. Set up a suggestion box. Constantly find ways both to communicate with—and listen to—families.



Hello, and welcome to our classroom!

Let's Get Acquainted

Please help me get to know you and your child by answering the following questions. Knowing this information will help me better meet your child's needs and communicate with you throughout the year.

Your Child's First Name

Your Child's Last Name

1. Does your child have a preferred nickname? _____

2. What are the names and relationships of your child's primary caregivers?

Caregiver's Name

Relationship to Child

Caregiver's Name

Relationship to Child

Caregiver's Name

Relationship to Child

3. Does your child have any siblings? What are their ages?

Sibling's Name / Age

Sibling's Name / Age

Sibling's Name / Age

4. Are there languages other than English spoken at home? YES NO

If yes, what other language(s) are spoken at home? _____

5. Is there anything you think I should know about your child's living situation?

6. Does your family have any special cultural traditions? Please explain.

7. What kind of technology is available to your child at home? Check all that apply.

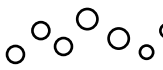
Computer _____

Tablet _____

The technology we own is for adults _____

We do not own any devices _____

Other _____



Let's Get Acquainted

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8. Has your child been in school or daycare before? Please circle. YES NO

9. How does your child learn best? Check all that apply.

Watching what you do _____ Doing it himself or herself _____ Through playing _____

Memorizing _____ Through games or television _____

Other _____

10. What does your child like to do at home? Check all that apply.

Play outdoors _____ Play quiet games inside _____ Play make-believe _____

Play on a tablet _____ Play with friends _____ Listen to books _____

Watch television _____ Color and make crafts _____

Other _____

11. How often do you read to your child? Check all that apply.

Every day _____ 1-2 times per week _____ 3-5 times per week _____

A few times a month _____ We do not have a reading routine _____

Other _____

12. Tell me something special about your child.

13. Do you have any concerns about your child?

14. Is there anything else you would like me to know about your child?

