

Appendix 6 | End of term 1 teacher questionnaire

We request your name and school details for follow-up purposes only. Your responses will contribute to our overall picture of primary science teaching. Only the researchers will see your name.

Please answer this questionnaire honestly and frankly. Respond in the way that it is, rather than portraying things as you would like them to be seen.

ID number

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For office use only

Teacher background

Teacher name: _____

State/Territory: _____

Name of school: _____

About your science teaching

Which science topic did you teach this Term? _____

Did you teach from the *Primary Connections* unit? Yes / No

What year level is this class? _____

What time of day did you mainly teach science this Term? am / pm / am and pm

Tick one box to indicate how much science you have taught this Term.

Amount of science taught	Tick
I taught science on a regular basis and averaged 60 minutes or more per week this Term	
I taught science on a regular basis and averaged between 30 and 60 minutes per week this Term	
I taught science intermittently and averaged less than 30 minutes per week this term	
I rarely taught science this Term	

Now that you are using *Primary Connections*, please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with each statement below by ticking the appropriate box to the right of each statement:

SA = Strongly Agree; A = Agree; UN = Uncertain;

D = Disagree; SD = Strongly Disagree

Item	Statement	SA	A	UN	D	SD
1	I am continually finding better ways to teach science					
2	Even when I try very hard, I don't teach science as well as I do most subjects					
3	I know the steps necessary to teach science concepts effectively					
4	I am not very effective in monitoring science experiments					
5	I generally teach science ineffectively					
6	I find it difficult to explain to students why science experiments work					
7	I am typically able to answer students' science questions					
8	Given a choice, I would not ask the Principal to evaluate my science teaching					
9	When a student has difficulty understanding a science concept, I am usually at a loss as to how to help the student understand it better					
10	When teaching science, I usually welcome student questions					

Please rate your confidence with the following aspects of science teaching when using *Primary Connections*.

VC = Very confident; C = Confident;

LC = Limited confidence; NC = No confidence

Item	Aspect	VC	C	OK	LC	NC
1	Engaging students' interest in science					
2	Managing hands-on group activities in science					
3	Managing discussions and interpretation of science observations					
4	Explaining science concepts					
5	Teaching science processes					
6	Developing literacy skills needed for learning science					
7	Assessing children's learning in science					
8	Using computers and ICTs in science					
9	Using a constructivist model to plan science units of work					

Indicate how frequently you used the following strategies in your science teaching this Term.

All = In all science lessons; Most = In most science lessons

Some = In some science lessons

Few = In few science lessons; Never = Never in science

Item	Statement	All	Most	Some	Few	Never
1	Students did hands-on activities					
2	Students followed the procedure I planned for the investigation					
3	Students worked out their own question and procedure for the investigation					
4	I demonstrated the experiment for the children					
5	Students used computers in their science lessons					
6	We used a digital camera in science lessons					
7	Students developed PowerPoint presentations for science					
8	We developed literacy skills needed for learning science in science lessons					
9	Students developed posters in science					
10	I used diagnostic assessments of students' science misconceptions					
11	I developed cooperative group skills					
12	We went on science excursions					
13	Children do activities outdoors					
14	We had members of the community talk to the class about science					

Which (if any) aspects of science teaching with *Primary Connections* this Term have been different from your previous science teaching?

Which (if any) aspects of the program are you finding particularly beneficial?

What (if any) improvements to your teaching practice have been made as a result of participating in the *Primary Connections* program?

Which (if any) aspects of the program are causing you concern or difficulty?

Feedback on the *Primary Connections* professional learning program

How helpful was the mid-term professional learning workshop in supporting you with teaching *Primary Connections*? Tick one box.

Very little help	Little help	OK	Helpful	Very helpful
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Do you have any additional professional development needs at this stage?

Feedback on the *Primary Connections* curriculum units

How effective are the *Primary Connections* curriculum units in supporting teaching and learning?
Tick one box

Very ineffective	Ineffective	OK	Effective	Very effective
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Why?

Has the *Primary Connections* unit been compatible with your state/territory's curriculum framework?

Yes / No

Explain

What (if any) changes would you like made to the *Primary Connections* curriculum units?

Have you adapted the materials or the approach for your class? Explain.

Did you/how did you integrate the literacy focuses of your *Primary Connections* unit with your literacy programming?

How effective is the integration of science and literacy in *Primary Connections* for supporting **learning in science**? Tick one box

Very ineffective	Ineffective	OK	Effective	Very effective
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Why? _____

How effective is the integration of science and literacy in *Primary Connections* for supporting **learning of literacy**? Tick one box

Very ineffective	Ineffective	OK	Effective	Very effective
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Why? _____

Describe any links you made to other learning areas?

Cooperative learning model

Have you used the cooperative learning group roles? **Yes / No**

Have the group roles helped you manage group work **Yes / No / NA**

What suggestions (if any) do you have for improving the group roles?

Assessment resources

Have the assessment tasks in the Engage, Explain and Evaluate lessons been easy to use? **Yes / No**

Have they provided useful evidence about students' learning? **Yes / No**

How have you been recording information about students' learning and achievement in science and literacy?

What suggestions (if any) do you have for improving the assessment tasks and resources?

How Tos

Have you used any of the How Tos? **Yes / No**

What additional How Tos would you like written?

Feedback on the *Primary Connections* unit planning template

Has the template been a useful resource to support your planning units of work?

Yes / No

Explain

Has developing your own unit using the template helped you better understand the *Primary Connections* teaching-learning model?

Yes / No

Explain

Do you have any suggestions for improving the template resources?

Feedback on the *Primary Connections* electronic resources

Have you used any of the resources on the Science Background CD-ROM? **Yes / No**

Have you used any of the resources on the Resource CD-ROM? **Yes / No**

Comments – what have you used/ease of access/usefulness etc

Have you logged in to the *Primary Connections* web page? **Yes / No**

Comment – ease of access/usefulness etc

Students' reaction to the program

How have your students responded to the **activities** and the **learning approach**?

Activities

(Tick one box)

Very negatively	Negatively	OK	Positively	Very positively
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Learning approach

(Tick one box)

Very negatively	Negatively	OK	Positively	Very positively
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Amount and quality of learning

How does the amount and quality of **science learning** using *Primary Connections* compare with last term?

Amount of science learning

Worse than last term	Same as last term	Better than last term
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Quality of science learning

Worse than last term	Same as last term	Better than last term
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Has *Primary Connections* made a contribution to students' **literacy learning**?

Worse than last term	Same as last term	Better than last term
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How has *Primary Connections* contributed to literacy learning?

Science in your school

How important was science in your school this Term? If the most important subject is ranked 1, and the second most important subject is ranked 2, what rank was science this Term?

I think science was ranked number _____.

Was there a science coordinator at your school this Term? **Yes / No**

If you had a coordinator, did the coordinator have time release from teaching to do the coordination?

Yes / No / Not applicable

How do you rate the budget for science equipment and consumables at your school this Term? Tick one box.

No budget	Inadequate	Satisfactory	Good	Very good
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How well equipped is your school for teaching science this Term? Tick one box.

Poor	Adequate	Well equipped
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Has your school developed improved strategies for organising science resources this term? **Yes / No**

Will science achievement be reported as a separate subject to parents at your school this year? **Yes / No**

Format of resources

In what format would you prefer to be supplied with *Primary Connections* resources?

Tick boxes as appropriate

Resource	Hard copy i.e. book or folder	CD-ROM	On-line
Curriculum units			
Background information about the structure and philosophy of the program			
Resource worksheets			
Assessment resources			
Science Background CD			

Overall summation

How highly do you rate your involvement in the *Primary Connections* program as a professional learning experience? **Tick one box.**

Better than any other professional learning program I have experienced	
As good as the best professional learning programs I have experienced	
OK	
I have experienced better professional learning programs	
It is one of the least useful professional learning programs I have experienced	

Which aspects of the program have been useful?

Tick boxes as appropriate

Aspect of the program	Very useful	Useful	Not useful
The summer school in January			
The follow-up one-day workshops			
The supplied curriculum units			
The How Tos			
The assessment resources			
The resource sheets			
Science Background CD			
The template and writing my own unit			
The web site			
The networking with colleagues within and across schools and states			

Thank you for responding to this questionnaire – your feedback will be very useful