



EXAMPLE Student Survey (Beginning & End-of-School-Year)

The purpose of this type of survey is to help you evaluate the impact of your outdoor classroom on your students and to determine if/how the outdoor classroom activities effect the students' perspective on the outdoors, science, nature, Alabama's native wildlife, gardening, etc.

Suggested Procedure

For elementary schools:

- Ask all of the classroom teachers (or homeroom teachers) to administer the survey to their students.
- Ask the K-2 teachers to read the questions aloud with their students, so the students will understand and correctly answer the survey questions.
- If you are unable to have all classes participate in the survey, then (1) ask at least one teacher per grade level and (2) ask at least 50% of all teachers at your school to administer the survey to their students.

For middle and high schools:

- Ask the science teachers to administer the surveys to their students.

Example Survey Questions

If you ask these questions at the beginning of the year and then again at the end of the year (after the students have participated in activities in the outdoor classroom), then you can determine the effectiveness of your program. IF you want to track individual responses and changes in perspective with each student, and assuming the responses will be anonymous, assign the same number to each student at the beginning of the year and the end of the year.

Grade: _____ Age: _____ Gender: _____ Number Assigned to Student: _____

- Do you spend time outdoors when you are not at school? __Yes __No
- Do you enjoy spending time outside? __Yes __No
- Do you wish that you could spend more time outdoors? __Yes __No
- Do you like to participate in activities in our outdoor classroom? __Yes __No
- Do you enjoy learning about nature? __Yes __No
- Do you enjoy learning about Alabama's wildlife? __Yes __No
- Do you like studying science and/or participating in science activities? __Yes __No
- Do you enjoy searching for wildlife in our outdoor classroom? __Yes __No
- Do you like bugs and insects? __Yes __No
- Do you like birds? __Yes __No
- Do you like frogs and toads? __Yes __No
- Do you like lizards and salamanders? __Yes __No
- Do you like snakes? __Yes __No
- Do you like to plant plants? __Yes __No
- Do you like to eat vegetables? __Yes __No

At the end of the school year, you could **add questions about specific topics** that the students should have learned about while participating in outdoor classroom activities that year...such as:

- What is a pollinator? ...OR... What types of adaptations do birds have that help them survive?

You can also ask **generic questions** with an open-ended response, such as:

- What did you learn this year after participating in activities in our outdoor classroom? ...OR... What was your favorite experience in the outdoor classroom this year?