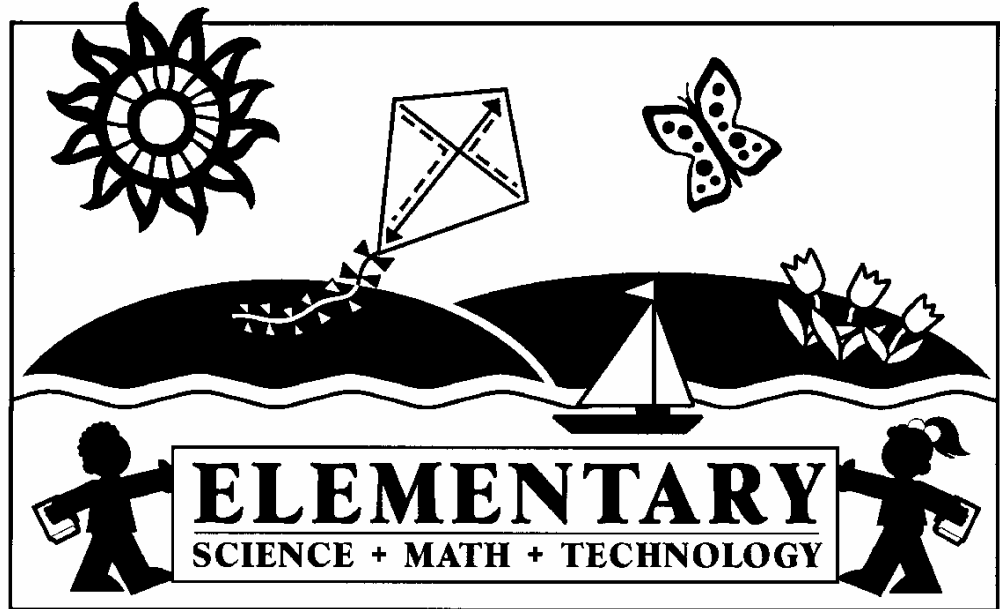


ELEMENTARY SCIENCE KITS



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SUMMARY

February 25 - March 28, 2008

A survey was conducted by the Oneida County BOCES Elementary Science Center of the science kits that were delivered during the one-month period of February 25-March 28, 2008. The questions chosen for the survey were reflective of the Learning Focused Schools model.

All the surveys were to be returned by April 15, 2008.

The survey was mailed directly to 286 teachers who received their spring science kits with 66 surveys returned, resulting in a 23% return rate.

The science grade levels evaluated in this survey were:

Pre-kindergarten

Kindergarten

Grade two

Grade three

Grade four

Grade five

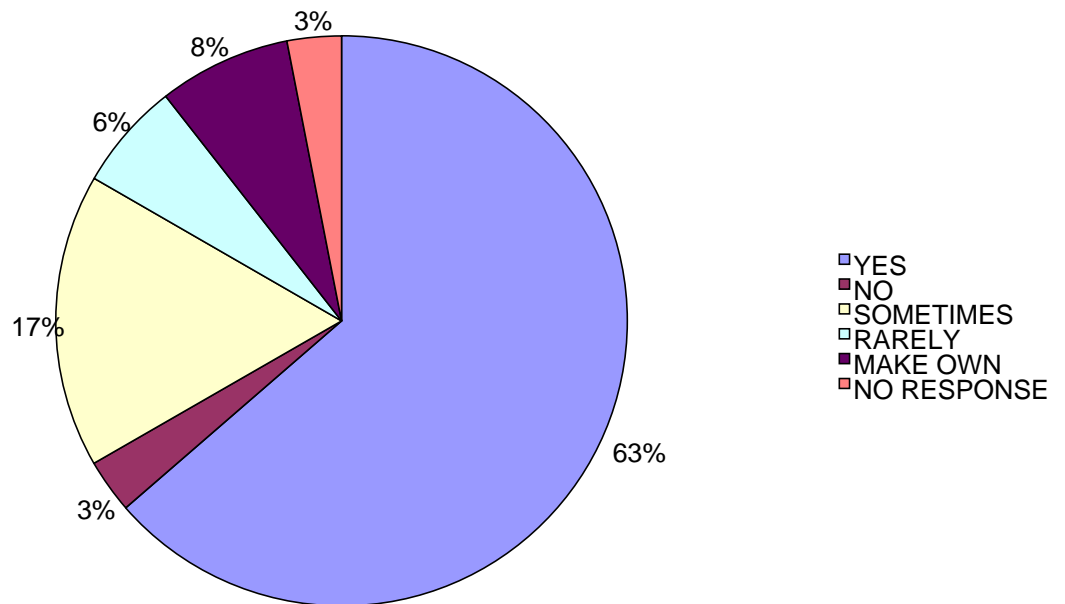
Grade six

The first grade kits were not scheduled for delivery during this time frame.

The following report is a summary of the survey results.

1. Does the essential question at the beginning of each lesson provide enough focus for the lessons?

Yes - 42 (63%)
No - 2 (3%)
Sometimes - 11 (17%)
Rarely Used - 4 (6%)
Make My Own - 5 (8%)
No Response - 2 (3%)



COMMENTS:

None

2. Do you use the concept vocabulary booklet and the words at the beginning of each lesson to provide better focus and retention of new words?

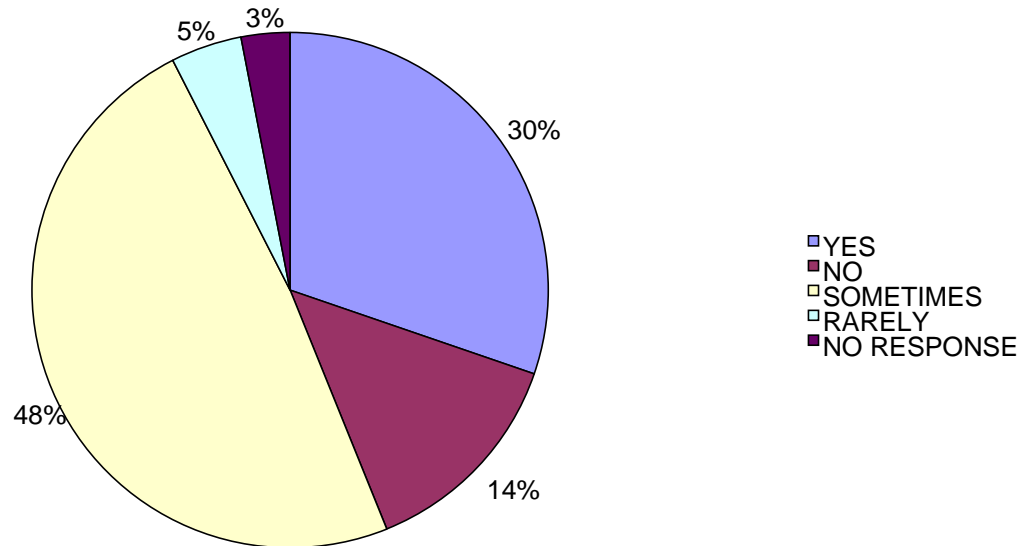
Yes -20 (30%)

No - 9 (14%)

Sometimes- 32 (48%)

Rarely Used-3 (5%)

No response-2 (3%)



COMMENTS:

Kindergarten

*Very Helpful!

Grade 3

*I use it now more than I did before (*two people stated*)
* More vocabulary words need to be added

Grade 4

*Difficult to copy and print
*Our content maps contain our own vocabulary and most of the BOCES words
*Some definitions are too difficult for fourth grade
*Some words are not included

3. Are there enough graphic organizers in the manual to enhance learner retention of the lessons?

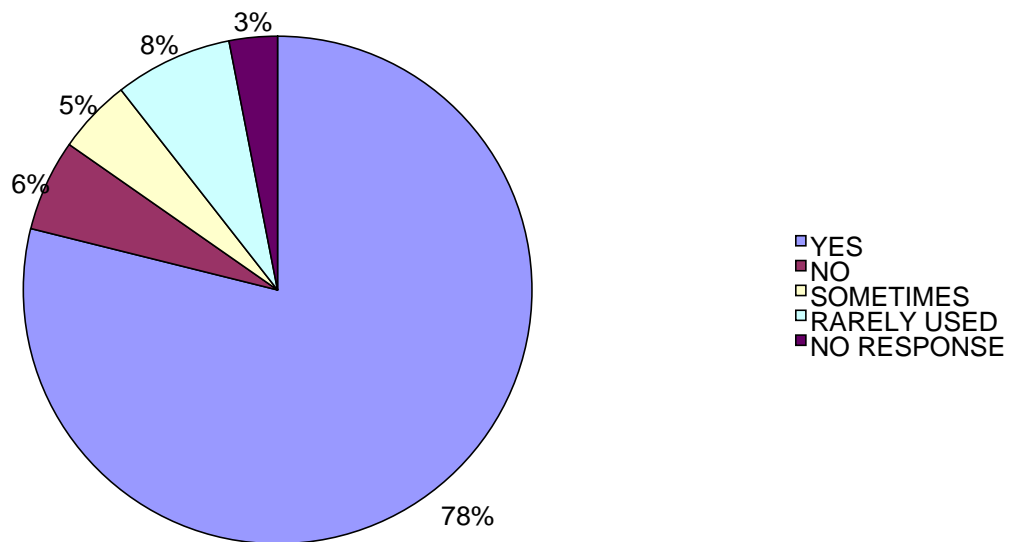
Yes - 52 (78%)

No - 4 (6%)

Sometimes - 3 (5%)

Rarely Used - 5 (8%)

No response - 2 (3%)



COMMENTS:

Kindergarten

*As a new teacher I have enjoyed the materials and found them to be an asset to my class

*The graphic organizers integrate well with ELA

*I pick and choose what to use along with my own ideas.

*I should use them more often

Grade 3

*Use my own (*two teachers stated*)

*Need more transparencies

Grade 5

*Great organizers!

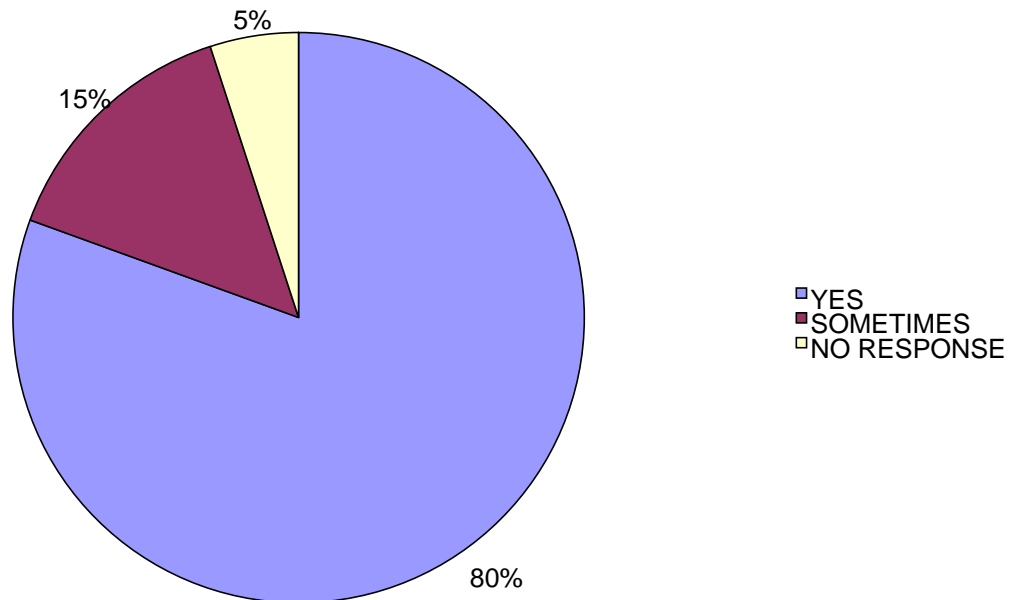
Readiness- Grade 3

4. Do you use the kit books for reading to the class and/or for student practice of their reading comprehension skills?

Yes - 33 (80%)

Sometimes - 6 (15%)

No Response - 2 (5%)



COMMENTS:

Pre-Kindergarten

*Books are great-even for pre-K!

Kindergarten

*Thank you for all the books

Grade Three

*Use the books in our centers

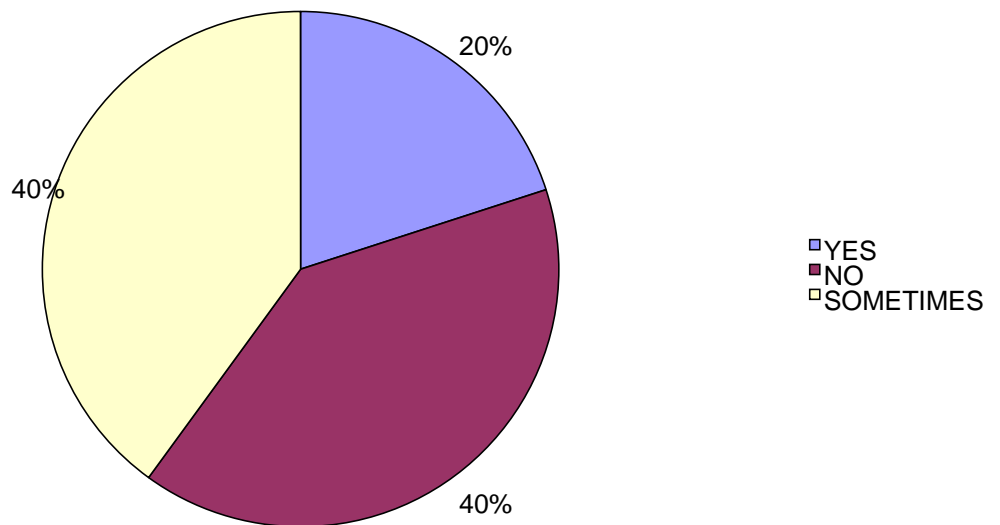
Grades 4-6

4.a Do you use the kit books and materials for a culminating student research and/or science project?

Yes - 6 (20%)

No - 12 (40%)

Sometimes - 12 (40%)



Comments
Grade 4

*We use the books as resources to reinforce lessons

Grades 4-6

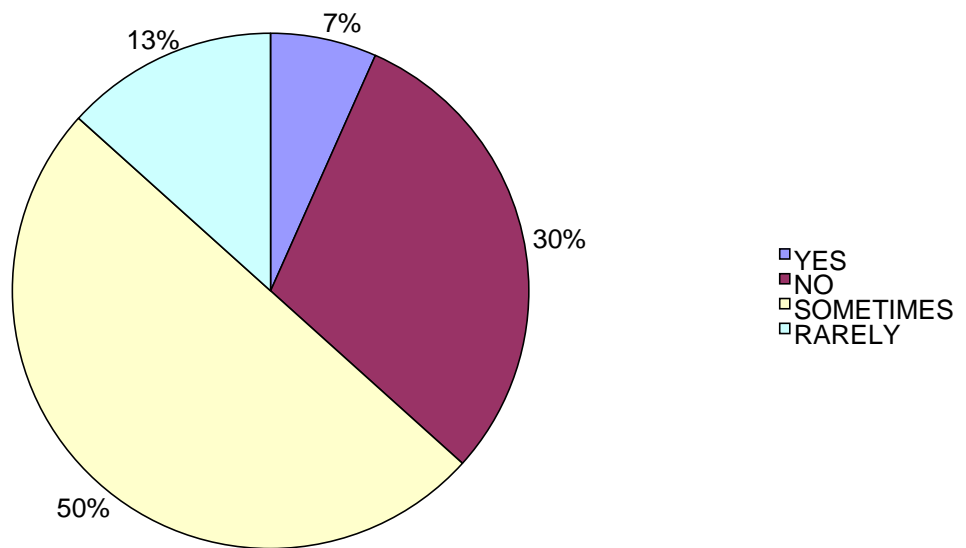
4.b Do you provide students “practice time” for reading comprehension and/or to write a summary of a kit book or portions of a kit book?

Yes - 2 (7%)

No - 9 (30%)

Sometimes -15 (50%)

Rarely - 4 (13%)



5. Are there other materials of books you would like to see added or deleted from the kits?

No deletions mentioned on any survey

Comments by 11 teachers

Books on tape

More coloring sheets

More lower level reading books

Harder work sheets

More Constructed Response questions

Classroom sets of trade books

Vocabulary tests and more tests in general

More videos and books

Magnets

More background information (two people stated)

Power Point presentations

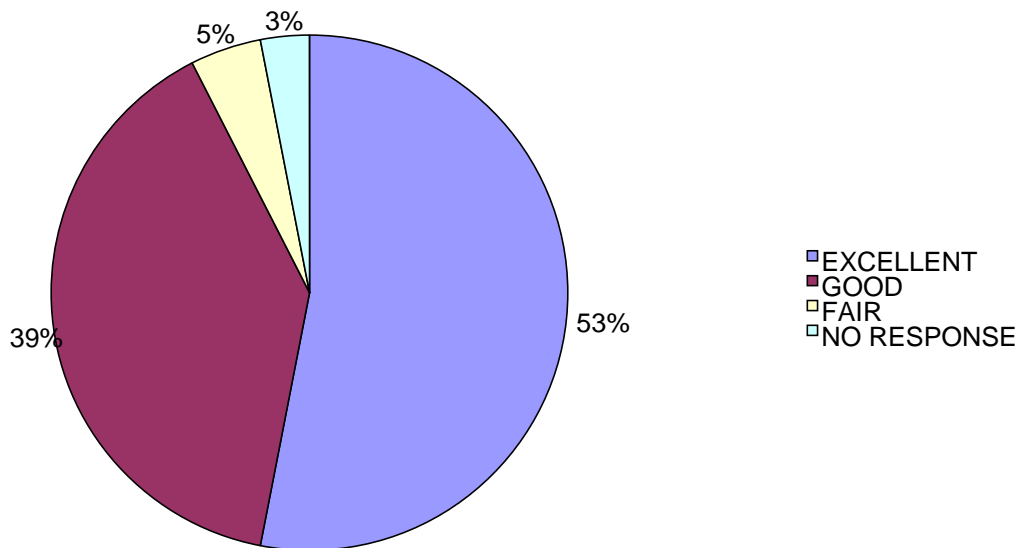
6. Overall, how would you rate this science kit?

Excellent - 35 (53%)

Good - 26 (39%)

Fair - 3 (5%)

No response - 2 (3%)



Additional Comments

Pre-kindergarten	<ul style="list-style-type: none">*More time to do the kits; with vacations they are hard to complete.*I really enjoyed the kit! My students and I loved it!
Kindergarten	<ul style="list-style-type: none">*The kits are well prepared, comprehensive and germane.*Thank you for the materials to add further substance to the kindergarten curriculum*I love the materials as they provide great "hands-on" work for my class.*Thank you for the kits! The students love them!
Grade Three	<ul style="list-style-type: none">*The children love graphing and sorting the bingo chips. The butterflies are the big "event" in third grade.
Grade Five	<ul style="list-style-type: none">*Why do we use the kits versus the textbook? I don't like the crayfish at all. (<i>A personal note was written back to this teacher.</i>)
Grade Six	<ul style="list-style-type: none">*Minerals are great in the <i>Rocks and Minerals</i> kit.*Love the kits. Keep up the good work.