

Survey On the Usefulness of Project WILD

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This document provides a copy of a survey distributed to 1,600 teachers from the United States and Canada who attended Project WILD workshops and a summary of the results from the 515 teachers that responded.

The purpose of the study was to investigate how Project WILD was being used by teachers and other professionals in school settings and how direct and indirect contacts between teaching professionals and Project WILD Coordinators contribute toward teachers' use of the program. The study was not an evaluation, but rather an academic research effort with the objective of improving an understanding of dissemination practices that contribute toward teachers' use of the program.

The survey instrument addresses the following areas:

- user demographics,
- how Project WILD is used,
- feelings about Project WILD,
- school context/collaboration,
- discussions about Project WILD with colleagues,
- involvement in Project WILD,
- general contacts with Project WILD,
- follow-up with Project WILD,
- contacts with Project WILD Coordinator,
- interactions with Project WILD Coordinator,
- importance of benefits from contact with Project WILD Coordinator, and
- important characteristics of a program coordinator.

Findings from the survey indicated that practices that use sustained interactions between Project WILD Coordinators as a strategy will likely have the effect of enhancing a) teachers' learning about Project WILD, b) teachers' use of Project WILD in practice, c) the implementation of it, and d) how teachers are affected because of their participation in Project WILD.

Survey findings also suggested that encouraging teachers to engage in collective discussion about Project WILD at their school and increasing teachers' engagement and involvement in Project WILD will likely enhance teachers' use of Project WILD in their practice and the extent to which it is implemented within the school systems.

The report provides a summary of additional survey findings and offers conclusions and recommendations for Project WILD Coordinators.