

Environmental Survey

School Name _____ Date _____



The walkthroughs are a search for trends and patterns. Please tally in the appropriate boxes when an attribute is present. The tally marks can then be used to guide conversations about environmental supports for learning. During the walkthrough, please have the principal record the data then make copies for the district and Literacy Specialists.

Room Arrangement			The Walls		
	Primary	Intermediate		Primary	Intermediate
Desk arrangement reflects cooperative work.			There is a lot of visible print presented in attractive, meaningful ways.		
Teacher desk is at the rear or nonexistent.			Bulletin boards are tools for learners not decorations. In K-1 the alphabet is at eye level and on each student desk.		
There is room for learners to move easily from one area to another.					
Large group meeting area with a carpet.			Comprehension strategies are clearly posted.		
Small group meeting area(s) are clearly visible.			There is evidence of word study (vocabulary, word walls, etc.)		
Focus on organization and beauty (soft lighting, plants). Stored resources are out of sight.			There is evidence of the study of the craft of writing.		
Resources are organized and easily accessible to learners.			Art is individual and accompanied by student-crafted print.		
Classroom Library			Conversation Patterns (if students are present)		
	Primary	Intermediate		Primary	Intermediate
There are a lot of books with easy access for students.			Teacher talk reflects strategy use.		
There is minimum 50-50 balance between fiction and nonfiction.			Students talk about their strategies and can cite examples of when they used them.		
Books at many levels.			Student comments reflect deep thinking.		
Each student has a personal collection of books for independent reading.			Class discussions are punctuated by partner talk rather than calling on one student at a time.		
There are magazines, newspapers and various forms of nonfiction print.			Teacher is often seen listening rather than talking.		
Management (if students are present)			Writing		
	Primary	Intermediate		Primary	Intermediate
When the teacher meets with groups, there is a sense of industry and purpose in the classroom.			Writing Folders or Writers Notebooks reflect a wide range of genre.		
Students are self-directed and manage themselves independently.			Craft lessons are evident.		
Independent tasks focus learners on reading and writing in meaningful ways... worksheets are minimized.			Writing is evident in all dimensions of the curriculum.		
			Teachers model writing.		
Observations/Possible focus areas:					