

Table of Contents

Introduction	3	Name Pass	50
Motivational Ideas	4	Name Passes	51
Participation Ante.	5	Valentines to Your Partner	52
Squiggle Stories.	6	Lines and Celebrations	53
Squiggle Story Sample Drawing.	7	Bonus Ball.	54
Individual Mini Conferences	8	Behavior Management Ideas	55
Mini Conference Sheet.	9	After-Work Reflection	56
READ-0.	10	After-Work Reflection Form.	57
Game Board.	11	Behavior Reflection	58
Nonfiction Book Log	12	Behavior Reflection Form	59
Fiction Book Log	13	Students vs. Teacher.	60
Reading Goal	14	Game Board and Pawns	61
Rewards.	15	Don't Say a Word.	62
Challenge Plan.	16	Shh Tickets	63
Sample Challenge Plan.	17	Secret Workers	64
Certificates.	18	Classroom Management Ideas	65
Award Certificate	19	Idea Box	66
Summer Packet	20	Passola and Portfolio	67
Sample Summer Letter.	21	Parent/Teacher Conferences	68
Goody Bags and Balloons	22	Pre-Conference Questionnaire	69
Sample Goody Bag Poem.	23	Student Questionnaire	70
Homework Buddy	24	Student Self-Evaluation	71
Review Ideas	25	Organization Role-Play	72
Reminder Binder	26	Role-Play Situation Cards	73
Reminder Binder Form.	27	Appointment Times	74
Fortune Teller.	28	Appointment Books	75
Math Review Games	30	Sticks, Numbers, and Bins	76
Steal the Protractor.	31	Homework Families	77
Vital Vocabulary.	32	Mobiles and Charts	78
Question and Answer	33	"Help! I Can't Find It!"	79
Smart Sack.	34	Bulletin Boards	80
Smart Sack Letter.	35	Geo-Genius	81
Roulette Review.	36	A Clear Contract	82
Parent Involvement Ideas	37	Student-Teacher Contract	83
"The Bonus Brief" Newsletter	38	Acronyms	84
The Bonus Brief.	39	Learning Ideas	85
Friday Folders	40	Quote of the Day	86
Weekly Comment & Reflection Form.	41	I Pledge . . . What?	87
Gathering the Pieces.	42	Challenge Club	88
Sample Parent Letter	43	Challenge Club Form	89
Book-'N-Bag-It Lunch.	44	Join the Class Work Force	90
Book-'N-Bag-It Letter	45	Job Application Form.	91
Open House Activities	46	Curiosity Questions	92
Self-Esteem Ideas	47	The Word of the Week	93
Thankful Thoughts	48	Poem of the Month.	94
Thankful Thoughts Letter.	49	Cooperation Totem Pole	95
		There's No "I" In Team!.	96



Parent/Teacher Conferences



Pre-Conference Questionnaire

Parent conferences can be a stressful time, especially if the teacher is unsure what to expect from an individual conference. One way to keep the parent focused, help the teacher prepare, and ward off unexpected questions is to have a pre-conference questionnaire. (See page 69 for a sample.) The questionnaire should be sent home about two weeks prior to the conference date and sent back to the teacher a week before the conference date. This will give the teacher enough time to prepare and gather information needed to answer questions thoroughly.

✓ **Tip:** Have the sheet at the conference to refer back to. It will help refresh the parents' memory of issues they mentioned.

Student Questionnaire

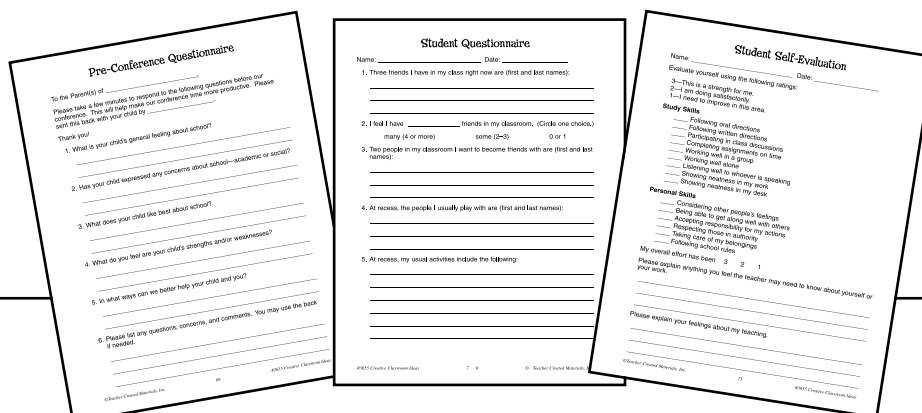
Parents are usually very interested in their child's social life at school. They may wonder, "Does my child fit in? Does my child have a friend to play with or be a partner with? What does my child do at recess?" In order to accurately answer these questions and other social questions, it is helpful to go directly to the child for the answer.

A week before conferences, ask the students to fill out the questionnaire as truthfully and accurately as they can. (See page 70 for a sample.) Tell them this is confidential and should not be discussed with anyone. This will help avoid hurt feelings and will promote honest answers.

Student Self-Evaluation

One additional form to have filled out for conferences is a student self-evaluation sheet. (See page 71.) This will give the teacher and the parents insight on how the student views himself or herself. This will also promote discussion between the teacher and the student about specific areas. For example, if a student scores himself inappropriately high or particularly low on a certain question, that is the time to discuss it.

Bring this sheet to the conference and review it together. Since the teacher has already clarified with the child any extreme scoring, the teacher will be able to now explain it to the parents. By using these sheets, the teacher will not only be very prepared, but will appear competent. Having insight to a child will promote trust between the teacher and the parents.



Pre-Conference Questionnaire

To the Parent(s) of _____,

Please take a few minutes to respond to the following questions before our conference. This will help make our conference time more productive. Please send this back with your child by _____.

Thank you!

1. What is your child's general feeling about school?

2. Has your child expressed any concerns about school—academic or social?

3. What does your child like best about school?

4. What do you feel are your child's strengths and/or weaknesses?

5. In what ways can we better help your child and you?

6. Please list any questions, concerns, and comments. You may use the back if needed.
