

***KIND News* Teacher Survey 2000-2001**

Four hundred teachers were selected at random to respond to a survey pertaining to their use of *KIND News*. Of the 400 questionnaires distributed, 268 were returned, for a 67% response rate. The following summarizes the responses to each survey item and includes additional comments supplied by the teachers.

1. I teach grade

Kindergarten:	8%	1 st & 2 nd :	1%
1 st grade:	17%	2 nd & 3 rd :	1%
2 nd grade:	18%	3 rd & 4 th :	0%
3 rd grade:	15%	4 th & 5 th :	1%
4 th grade:	18%	5 th & 6 th :	less than 1%
5 th grade:	10%	special program:	5%
6 th grade:	3%	other:	1%
		no response:	1%

2. I currently receive *KIND News* in the

- (a) Primary edition
- (b) Jr. edition
- (c) Sr. edition

(a) 50% (b) 34 % (c) 14% (a) & (b) 1% (a), (b) & (c) 1%

3. I think teaching children to respect wildlife and the environment is

- (a) very important
- (b) important
- (c) somewhat important
- (d) unimportant

(a) 85% (b) 14% (c) less than 1% (d) 0% no response: 1%

4. I think teaching children to care responsibly for pets is

- (a) very important
- (b) important
- (c) somewhat important
- (d) unimportant

(a) 84% (b) 15% (c) 0% (d) 0% no response: 1%

5. As a supplementary classroom resource, I would rate *KIND News*

- (a) excellent
- (b) very good
- (c) good
- (d) fair
- (e) poor

(a) 60% (b) 30% (c) 8% (d) 1% (e) 0% no response: 1%

6. (a) I receive *KIND News* for free, through the Adopt-a-Classroom program.

(b) My *KIND News* subscription was paid for with school funds.

(c) I paid for my *KIND News* subscription with my own personal funds.

(a) 86% (b) 9% (c) 2% no response: 3%

7. If I had to pay for *KIND News* out of my own pocket, I would be willing to pay

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| (a) \$31 or more per year | (e) \$11-15 per year |
| (b) \$26-30 per year | (f) \$6-10 per year |
| (c) \$21-25 per year | (g) \$1-5 per year |
| (d) \$16-20 per year | (h) I would not be willing to pay with personal funds. |

(a) 1% (b) 4% (c) 8% (d) 12% (e) 12% (f) 6% (g) 6% (h) 45% (b) & (c) less than 1%
(d) & (e) less than 1% no response: 5%

8. If I had to pay for *KIND News* with school funds, I would be willing to pay

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| (a) \$31 or more per year | (e) \$11-15 per year |
| (b) \$26-30 per year | (f) \$6-10 per year |
| (c) \$21-25 per year | (g) \$1-5 per year |
| (d) \$16-20 per year | (h) I would not be willing to pay with school funds. |

(a) 6% (b) 7% (c) 12% (d) 18% (e) 14% (f) 8% (g) 9% (h) 15% (c) & (d) 1%
not up to me: 1% no response: 9%

9. (a) I distribute *KIND News* to my students and discuss one or more of the articles.

(b) I simply distribute *KIND News* to my students, without discussion.

(c) I don't distribute it.

(a) 86% (b) 8% (c) 0% (a) & (b) 5% not up to me: less than 1% no response: less than 1%

10. (a) Most of my students usually take *KIND News* home.

(b) Most of my students rarely take *KIND News* home.

(a) 91% (b) 4% no response: 5%

11. I think using *KIND News* has _____ my students' treatment of one another.

- | | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| (a) improved | (b) somewhat improved | (c) had no effect on |
|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------|

(a) 30% (b) 49% (c) 16% not sure: less than 1% have not observed: less than 1% no response: 4%

12. I think using *KIND News* has _____ my students' concern about the welfare of animals.

- | | | |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| (a) increased | (b) somewhat increased | (c) had no effect on |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------------|

(a) 59% (b) 38% (c) 0% not sure: 1% no response: 2%

13. I think using *KIND News* has _____ my students' concern about protecting the environment.

- | | | |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| (a) increased | (b) somewhat increased | (c) had no effect on |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------------|

(a) 54% (b) 42% (c) less than 1% not sure: less than 1% no response: 3%

14. I find the *KIND Teacher* resource book to be

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|---|
| (a) very useful | (c) somewhat useful | (e) I did not receive <i>KIND Teacher</i> |
| (b) useful | (d) not useful | |

(a) 26% (b) 36% (c) 22% (d) 3% (e) 11% I don't use it: less than 1% no response: 1%

15. I find the *KIND News Teacher's Guide* that comes with each bundle of *KIND News* to be
(a) very useful (b) useful (c) somewhat useful (d) not useful

(a) 36% (b) 41% (c) 17% (d) 2% I don't use it: 1% no response: 3%

16. If a reasonably-priced book of 100 or more reproducible worksheets about kindness to people, animals, and the environment was published, I would be

- (a) interested in purchasing it
- (b) not interested

(a) 68% (b) 26% depends on cost: less than 1% would have to preview first: less than 1%
not sure: 1% no response: 4%

17. If a reasonably-priced book containing 100 or more quick, easy-to-do whole-class activities about kindness to people, animals, and the environment was published, I would be

- (a) interested in purchasing it
- (b) not interested

(a) 76% (b) 19% not sure: 1% no response: 4%

18. In my school, the teaching of virtues such as kindness and respect is accomplished through

- (a) participation in a national or state-mandated character education program
- (b) participation in a school-wide or district-wide character education initiative
- (c) the use of supplementary materials (like *KIND News*) and teacher-created lessons
- (d) Character education is not formally addressed in my school.

(a) 9% (b) 30% (c) 22% (d) 7% (a) & (b) 2% (a), (b) & (c) 5% (a) & (c) 3% (b) & (c) 18%
(c) & (d) 1% religion books: 1% Lighthouse program: less than 1% no response: 1%

19. (a) My students view *KIND News Online* (www.kindnews.org) as a whole-class activity.

(b) My students view *KIND News Online* individually or in small groups.

(c) My students do not view *KIND News Online* in school.

(d) I think some of my students view *KIND News Online* at home.

(a) 3% (b) 5% (c) 77% (d) 7% (a) & (b) 1% (c) & (d) 3% no response: 4%

20. I would describe my school's location as

- (a) rural
- (b) suburban
- (c) urban
- (d) inner city

(a) 36% (b) 35% (c) 18% (d) 7% (a) & (b) 1% (a) & (c) less than 1%
high needs: less than 1% no response: 2%

21. I would describe my school's racial makeup as

- (a) predominantly white
- (b) predominantly minority
- (c) mixed

(a) 58% (b) 14% (c) 27% (a) & (c) less than 1% no response: less than 1%

22. What, if anything, would you change about *KIND News*, *KIND Teacher*, or the *KIND News Teacher's Guide*?

(a) wouldn't change anything (or something similar) or no response: 89%

(b) offered a suggestion: 11%

Suggestions:

- I would include a run-off sheet stressing something issue-specific.
- Not so much junk on the back page.
- Suggest literature that the children might be interested in, that goes with one section.
- Make it easier to handle.
- More hands-on activities.
- My students are predominantly Spanish speakers, so they do not always understand. It would be nice to have some info in Spanish.
- Too simple for 2nd grade kids.
- I think I would be interested in more specifics about kindness to people. Students don't seem to be carrying over that kindness to animals also means kindness to people.
- I would suggest another level, between Primary and Junior. The Primary edition is too simple for 2nd graders, but the Junior is too challenging!
- The Primary issues are very easy for second graders.
- More pages per issue.
- Cut back on amount of K-1 issues; too many articles.
- I would like a connect-the-dots section using numbers. My students get excited to find out the animal, and I review letters while doing this activity. So, in using numbers I can review that as well while maintaining the students' interest in the assigned activity.
- Better photography.
- Please put an answer key for the KIND Quiz in the Teacher's Guide.
- Readability and interest is not challenging for 6th grade.
- Send in packs of no more than 25. I hate to waste all the extra issues that come. Put a section in that lets students and teachers know what's coming in the next issue.
- The state-testing program in reading uses a lot of magazine articles. It would be nice to have some questions (5-10) that used the same format as the test.
- I do not need the activities. The stories alone and discussions we have to tie to the real world is enough in 5th grade.
- It could be more beneficial if *KIND News* was published bi-monthly or quarterly. Then it wouldn't be repetitious—hearing the same message—and be more of a message that's meaningful. Also, the teachers would have more time to discuss the articles. We have other studies and news articles to read too, so time is a problem.
- A worksheet—vocabulary—comprehension, etc.
- I have 34 students and only receive 32 issues
- I would suggest the use of brighter colors and a section for Spanish readers.
- I would like to have *KIND News* in Spanish and English (bilingual).
- Sometimes the activities seem to focus on the younger grades. Maybe some more advanced activities would be helpful.
- The *KIND Teacher* resource book is a little too easy—it seems better suited for 2nd and 3rd grade.
- Easier practice exercises for Spanish-speaking ESL students, more free offers for students to send for.
- I'm reading a book by Tiger Woods and his father that promotes these themes (kindness to people, animals, and the environment.) The Teacher's Guide seemed geared to a younger audience.

23. Additional comments:

- I make animal issues part of my program whenever possible. *KIND Teacher* is a tool to be used in its integration within my classroom. *
- *KIND News* inspired my class to form a club and collect money for our county animal shelter. The club had two people come to the school to speak on animal care. The club has raised over \$100 so far! *
- *KIND News* fits into our school-wide character education plan perfectly. We can relate to a lot of the articles in our classroom discussions. *
- Thank you for the opportunity to use *KIND News* in my classroom. It's a great supplement. *
- My students enjoy the magazine very much. *
- We are now getting into the environment and animal sections of our Science curriculum and will use *KIND News* there, also. *
- I love to use it (*KIND News*) for writing class. It gives students ideas for persuasion pieces. *
- We use *KIND News*, and then pass it on to other classes. I really like some of the reading and vocabulary activities. *
- Great job!
- My students look forward to *KIND News*. It has really made a difference in their level of responsibility across all content areas and social behaviors. *
- *KIND News* at my grade level is organized well and an interesting newspaper for my students! They look forward to it each month. Each month I introduce the newspaper, then students work on activities by themselves and then we discuss as a whole group. (The "Women's Club" has furnished this newspaper to my classes for many years. I hope they never stop!!) *
- Students love it. *
- I think it is excellent, with just the right amount of fun activities mixed with informational articles, to keep the interest of the students.
- My students are so anxious to read and discuss their *KIND News* paper. They like the discussions and the activities. *
- I like getting the paper. I distribute these to my kids, but we never discuss them. We receive too many copies for our classroom, so I usually end up recycling these.
- *KIND News* is a great way to cover a variety of topics in a quick straightforward way. The students look forward to each issue. *
- I wish I had had the same opportunity to learn about wildlife and the environment as a young student. I love receiving *KIND News* and so do my students! *
- We enjoy reading about animals in other countries and locating them on the world map. *
- I've so enjoyed and appreciated receiving *KIND News*. We have all loved it.
- I wish to thank you for supporting me all these years and sending my classes this newspaper. I've watched them get excited year after year when I pull it out for us to read together. They truly enjoy the articles and activities. *
- Thank you! My kids appreciate *KIND News* and read it as soon as they get it. *
- I appreciate receiving *KIND News* from the ladies, the students love reading them. Regarding question #16 and #17, we have so much that comes with our curriculum that I would not need these. *
- Thank you; it is very appreciated.
- I really have enjoyed the *KIND News* paper.
- I think *KIND News* is very important for children today. Many are not taught at home to respect nature, animals, or even other people. *
- Thanks for a great resource!
- Thanks for your excellent publication! *
- Thanks!
- My students look forward to receiving their *KIND News* and enjoy reading it. It always has something that interests all my students. *
- Great publication for the students.

- My students and I thoroughly enjoy reading the *KIND News* in the classroom. How do I go about thanking the person who pays for our subscription in the Adopt-A-Teacher program? We are not online yet, but look forward to viewing your Web site! *
- Great geography section. It would be great to know what calendar is for geography articles before school starts—can “travel the world” throughout the year. *
- Keep up the good work! My students have been learning valuable lessons about the environment and how to preserve wildlife. Also, they’re learning how to care for their own pets. *
- It broadens their knowledge on animals and various countries, which fits well in social studies and science. *
- The simple text reinforces reading for emergent readers. The children love the activities: dot-to-dot, drawing, etc.
- Keep up the good work!
- Good way to teach these objectives. *
- I love it! Thanks!
- The activities are great. I have kept every resource guide (*KIND Teacher*) I have gotten. *
- Thank you for what you do. *
- I especially like the character promoting stories. *
- I truly like and appreciate having this resource. I believe in kindness to animals and the environment and teach/promote it regardless! *
- It is great. The children love it, especially all of the fun activities. *
- My students love using *KIND News*. I teach Kindergarten. At the beginning of the week, I put their newspaper in their mailbox, and they can read it during center time or milk break during the week. On Friday we discuss it during group time. During their center time the children circle words they can read and punctuation marks they are learning. At the beginning of the year they find letters and sounds we are studying. Some become quite excited when they can read a few words and punctuation marks in their newspaper.
- Thank you for this service to students and teachers.
- This is an excellent resource to follow up many issues in our character development. How we treat animals is how we treat people!
- Keep up the great work! We look forward to each issue.
- I love your news magazine! *
- You are doing a great job. Students really enjoy this. *
- My students really love to read the articles. They get to read a newspaper just like their parents. *
- Our school was the national winner of a Kindness & Justice Program.
- A special thanks to Beechmont Women’s Club for funding this curriculum in my classroom. *KIND News* promotes respect and kindness of the environment in an informative and motivational format. *
- My students and I find the articles most interesting. *
- I love it and hope I continue to be adopted to receive it.
- *KIND News* is essential for me especially during Library days. I have the students read each article and find (highlight) 10 facts. *
- Our curriculum is very full. I use *KIND News* for reading when I have a sub. The articles are good and the kids enjoy them.
- My students and I love *KIND News*! They love to take it home and share it with their family; too! *
- A great publication.
- The articles are informative and geared to the interests of the children. We are thankful to receive them.
- The students enjoy your newspaper very much.
- Like the Teacher’s Guide—can be used for other classes as well.
- Most of my children enjoy the *KIND News* very much.
- I am pleased with the layout. It is on my students’ level of thinking.
- The newspapers, web site, and guides are very satisfactory in themselves, and I would not need to purchase any more material.

- My children clap and cheer when I tell them their new issues have arrived. *
- Children are generally interested in animals. I have animals in my classroom to use as motivators and reinforcers (can hold an animal after completing work) and to teach respect and responsibility. *KIND News* is a wonderful tie-in for all of the above. *
- Not only has *KIND News* taught my students to be responsible, it has also taught them language and writing skills. We use our newspapers to go over parts of speech and as an example of informative and persuasive writing. *
- My students enjoy the articles, puzzles, and activities that are included. They always take them home. I don't find them stuffed in desks or on the floor. *
- I get "extras" of *KIND News* so I don't have *KIND Teacher*. I do get the Teacher's guide. I like the way the paper is organized now. I feel that *KIND News* is a step in the right direction toward changing kids' attitudes about compassion for animals and people. It's a good way to work character education into the curriculum naturally. *
- I really enjoy the class discussions that result from the articles. I use the Primary publication for my 3rd and 4th grade Special Education reading groups in the afternoon. I teach ½ time Special Ed too.) *
- I share my *KIND News* with other teachers at my school.
- We love it! The kids especially like the Critter Clues and the puzzles. *
- Enjoy using it along with my nature units.
- My students enjoy the activities in each issue! Thanks! *
- Well done! Even though fats are presented, I must be reserved about some issues living in a rural/ranching community.
- Students really enjoy reading, discussing the articles, and the activities. *
- My students and I love *KIND News*!! Many of my students collect the animal cards the whole year. *
- We enjoy the publication very much and appreciate receiving it.
- I believe the children get good information out of *KIND News*, but they don't apply it to their everyday life.
- The children enjoy using *KIND News*. It's a wonderful resource. *
- My students look forward to their issues of *KIND News* to come, and we do part of their lesson using our buddy readers. Being kindergartners, it's a great way for the younger kids to share ideas with their 5th grade buddies. *
- Teaching and addressing kindness to animals at an early age promotes kindness to all humanity. Thank you! *
- Is it possible for *KIND News* to arrange for a pen pal club? I think this would increase the students' enthusiasm for being kind to others. *
- I love the article on Jane Goodall and would like to continue receiving the papers. Thanks! *
- I think *KIND News* is an excellent addition to our kindergarten classroom. We have several pets and can relate a lot of the items in the "news" with the children's reality. *
- It's great. Keep it coming. *

May we publish your comments in our promotional materials?

yes: 33%

no: 22%

no response: 45%

* Permission granted for promotional use.