

Past Experiences with Science

In this section, we will ask you about your positive and negative experiences with science in the classroom, with family and friends, and on your own. We would like you to focus on pre-college experiences only.

In the Classroom:

Before starting college, did you take any science classes? Yes No

Did you like your science classes? Yes No

In a few words or sentences, explain what you liked or disliked about your science classes.

About what percentage of the time would you say you had **positive** experiences in science classes?

0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

About what percentage of the time would you say you had **negative** experiences in science classes?

0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

With Family or Friends:

Before starting college, did you partake in science-related activities with friends or family?

Yes No

Did you enjoy these activities? Yes No

In a few words or sentences, explain what you liked or disliked about these activities.

About what percentage of the time would you say you had **positive** experiences with science while with friends or family?

0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

About what percentage of the time would you say you had **negative** experiences with science while with friends or family?

0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

On Your Own:

Before starting college, did you partake in science-related activities on your own? Yes No

Did you enjoy these activities? Yes No

In a few words or sentences, explain what you liked or disliked about these activities.

About what percentage of the time would you say you had **positive** experiences with science while on your own?

0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

About what percentage of the time would you say you had **negative** experiences with science while on your own?

0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

Please mark the box that indicates when your **FIRST** experience of each type occurred with science in each of the following categories:

Your First...	Elementary School	Middle School	Early High School	Late High School	College	Never
Positive experience with science in the Classroom						
Negative experience with science in the Classroom						
Positive Experience with science with Friends or Family						
Negative Experience with science with Friends or Family						
Positive experience with science on your own						
Negative experience with science on your own						

For the next two questions, please use a scale from 1 – 5 where 1 means you had no interest in or were not actively engaged at all with science, and 5 means you had total interest in or were very actively engaged with science.

Rate your interest in **science as a process** (doing experiments and lab work, being actively engaged with science) during...

Elementary	Middle School	Early High School	Late High School	College

Rate your interest in **science content** (facts and understanding, learning new things) during...

Elementary	Middle School	Early High School	Late High School	College

If you were interested in science in the past, but not currently interested in science now, please briefly explain what happened to cause the change.

In this section we would like you to tell us what kinds of experiences were available, and what kinds of experiences were used by you and your family growing up (before college). If we missed something, please fill it in at the bottom of the table.

	Available but not used	Not Available	Used
City parks			
Forests, wilderness, or other natural areas			
Natural history museums			
Libraries			
Fishing/hunting/hiking/camping			
Zoos/botanical gardens/Planetariums/Aquariums/			
Farming/Gardening			
Programs at local colleges			
Other:			
Other:			
Other:			

Did any of the experiences listed above have a memorable impact, either positive or negative, on you growing up? If so, how?

In this section, we would like to ask you to think about your current comfort level with science and your views on science

On a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rank your current comfort with science as a process (doing experiments and lab work, being actively engaged)?

Very Uncomfortable		Neutral		Very Comfortable	Not Applicable
1	2	3	4	5	None

On a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rank your current comfort with science content (facts and understanding, learning new things)?

Very Uncomfortable		Neutral		Very Comfortable	Not Applicable
1	2	3	4	5	None

For each of the following aspects of science, please indicate if you like, dislike or are neutral towards that aspect.

	Like	Dislike	Neutral
Math			
Statistics			
Process (activities)			
Content (knowledge)			
Laboratory work			
Interacting with scientists			
Opportunity for profit			
Impact on society			
Conservation (persevering natural areas)			
Field work (being outdoors)			
Instructors you had			
Other:			
Other:			

From what county and state did you graduate high school?

What was the approximate population of the town in which you lived during high school?

0-1,000 1,001-10,000 10,001-100,000 100,001-500,000 500,001+

You, Currently:

On a scale of 1 to 5, currently, how important is **RELIGION** (any religion) to you personally?

Not Important				Very Important
1	2	3	4	5

On a scale of 1 to 5, currently, how important are **POLITICS** (regardless of political orientation) to you personally?

Not Important				Very Important
1	2	3	4	5

Your Family, Growing up:

On a scale of 1 to 5, how important was **RELIGION** (any religion) to your family when you were growing up?

Not Important				Very Important
1	2	3	4	5

On a scale of 1 to 5, how important were **POLITICS** (regardless of political orientation) to your family when you were growing up?

Not Important				Very Important
1	2	3	4	5

Thank you! Please return this survey to the person who handed it out.