

APPENDIX A

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PIRLS is a major undertaking of IEA, and together with TIMSS (Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study), comprises the core of IEA's regular cycle of studies. IEA has delegated responsibility for the overall direction and management of these two projects to the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center at Boston College. Headed by Ina V.S. Mullis and Michael O. Martin, the study center is located in the Lynch School of Education. In carrying out these two ambitious international studies, the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center works closely with the IEA Secretariat in Amsterdam and the IEA Data Processing and Research Center in Hamburg. Statistics Canada monitors and implements sampling activities, the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) in England and the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) provide support for item development, and Educational Testing Service consults on psychometrics. Especially important is close coordination with the National Research Coordinators designated by the participating countries to be responsible for the complex tasks involved in implementing the studies in their countries. In summary, it takes extreme dedication on the part of many individuals around the world to make PIRLS a success and the work of these individuals across all of the various activities involved is greatly appreciated.

With each new assessment cycle of a study, one of the most important tasks is to update the assessment framework. Updating the PIRLS assessment framework for 2016 has involved extensive input and reviews by individuals at the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study, the IEA, the PIRLS 2016 National Research Coordinators, and the two PIRLS expert committees: the PIRLS 2016 Reading Development Group, and the PIRLS 2016 Questionnaire Development Group. Of all the individuals around the world that it takes to make PIRLS a success, the intention here is to specifically acknowledge some of those persons who had particular responsibility and involvement in developing and producing the *PIRLS 2016 Assessment Framework*.

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PIRLS 2016 Reading Development Group

The PIRLS Reading Development Group is a panel of internationally recognized experts in reading research, instruction, and assessment. The Reading Development Group is responsible for providing expert advice about the development of the PIRLS 2016 reading assessment, beginning with updating the assessment framework and then test development for PIRLS, PIRLS Literacy, and ePIRLS.

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