



## A Parent's Guide to Assessments

### TEACHING STRATEGIES GOLD (TS Gold)

Assessments provide valuable information for students, parents and educators on whether students have mastered grade level and content standards and are on track to graduate prepared for the 21st century. These assessment results are intended to provide one measure in a body of evidence of your child's academic progress.



#### WHAT IS THIS ASSESSMENT?

Teaching Strategies (TS) Gold is an ongoing, observation-based assessment for preschool and kindergarten students. Teachers observe children in the context of their everyday experiences to determine what they know and can do, and their strengths, needs and interests within 6 areas of learning and development: Social Emotional, Physical, Language, Cognitive, Literacy and Mathematics (English Language Acquisition where applicable). TS Gold meets the state requirement of the Early Readiness Assessment.



#### WHEN IS MY CHILD BEING TESTED?

Each preschool student will be observed in an ongoing basis, and the data collected by your child's teacher will be finalized 3 times each year at the state checkpoint deadlines. Kindergarten students will be observed in an ongoing basis during the first 60 days of school and data will be finalized once at the first state checkpoint. Schools can determine if they wish to continue using TS Gold with kindergarten students throughout the remainder of the year for progress monitoring. As this is an observation-based model, no instructional time is used to administer this assessment.

##### Checkpoint Deadlines

October  
January  
May



#### WHAT SCORE(S) WILL MY CHILD RECEIVE?

Assessment results provide important measures in how well your student is learning the concepts and skills within each standard so that your child can be successful in his or her current grade and continue to make academic progress from year to year.

In TS Gold, a rating scale is used to assign a value to your child's level on a particular progression of development and learning. This helps places the child into a range of below, meeting or exceeding research-based expectations for their particular age or class/grade.



#### HOW WILL THESE SCORES BE USED?

TS Gold assessment scores are used by your child's teacher to determine what your child knows and can do and how that relates to important objectives for development and learning. Teachers can also scaffold learning for your child and check for progress with information gained from this assessment. Your child's scores should be shared with you during your parent-teacher conferences. Early Education Centers use preschool TS Gold scores as part of the School Performance Framework accountability measure.



#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We encourage you to be involved in your child's education. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher for ways you can help your child at home and availability of testing accommodations.

**More Information: Assessments**

Visit:

- <http://assessments.dpsk12.org>

If you have questions or concerns about assessments, please contact your child's school directly or call Family Constituency Services at (720) 423-3054.