



*Richard Woods, Georgia's School Superintendent*



Teaching and Learning

Assessment Research, Development and Administration

Understanding the Georgia Milestones Achievement Levels

## **Formative Assessments & Resources**

DRC BEACON

Formative Instructional Practices (FIP)

Georgia Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills 2.0 (GKIDS 2.0)

GKIDS Readiness Check

Keenville

TestPad

## **Summative Assessments**

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0

Alternate ACCESS for ELLs

Georgia Alternate Assessment 2.0 (GAA 2.0)

Georgia Milestones Assessment System

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

## **Other Assessment Resources**

Accountability

Assessment Innovation and Flexibility Resources

College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI)

Georgia Student Growth Model (GSGM)

Lexile Framework for Reading

Retired Assessments

### Related GaDOE Links

Curriculum and Instruction

Dual Enrollment Program

College Readiness and Talent Development (AP, SAT, PSAT, ACT, IB)

### Other Links

Governor's Office of Student Achievement (GOSA)

GOSA Report Card

# Understanding the Georgia Milestones Achievement Levels

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The Georgia Milestones Assessment System utilizes four achievement levels to describe student mastery and command of the knowledge and skills outlined in Georgia's content standards. Most students have at least some knowledge of the content described in the content standards; however, achievement levels succinctly describe how much mastery a student has. Achievement levels give meaning and context to scale scores by describing the knowledge and skills students must demonstrate to achieve each level.

The four achievement levels on Georgia Milestones are *Beginning Learner*, *Developing Learner*, *Proficient Learner*, and *Distinguished Learner*. The general meaning of each of the four levels is provided below:

**Beginning Learners do not yet demonstrate proficiency** in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students ***need substantial academic support*** to be prepared for the next grade level or course and to be on track for college and career readiness.

**Developing Learners demonstrate partial proficiency** in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students ***need additional academic support*** to ensure success in the next grade level or course and to be on track for college and career readiness.

**Proficient Learners demonstrate proficiency** in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students ***are prepared*** for the next grade level or course and are on track for college and career readiness.

**Distinguished Learners demonstrate advanced proficiency** in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia’s content standards. The students **are well prepared** for the next grade level or course and are well prepared for college and career readiness.

More detailed and content-specific concepts and skills are provided for each grade, content area, and course in the **Achievement Level Descriptors** (ALDs). ALDs are narrative descriptions of the knowledge and skills expected at each of the four achievement levels and were developed for each grade level, content area, and course by committees of Georgia educators in March 2015 and July 2015. The ALDs are based on the state-adopted content standards.

**ALDs show a progression of knowledge and skills** for which students must demonstrate competency across the achievement levels. It is important to understand that a student should demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills within his/her achievement level *as well as all content and skills in any achievement levels that precede his/her own, if any*. For example, a Proficient Learner should also possess the knowledge and skills of a Developing Learner *and* a Beginning Learner.

**ALDs for Parents** are available below and are intended to summarize the concepts and skills for each grade, content area, and course to support parents’ understanding of their child’s performance. The full versions of the ALDs are also available.

### **Georgia Milestones End of Grade (EOG) Achievement Level Descriptors for Parents**

Grade 3

Grade 4

Grade 5

Grade 6

Grade 7

Grade 8

### **Georgia Milestones End of Course (EOC) Achievement Level Descriptors for Parents**

Ninth Grade Literature

American Literature

Coordinate Algebra

Algebra I

Analytic Geometry

Geometry

Biology

Physical Science

United States History

Economics/Business/Free Enterprise



**Governor's Office of Student Achievement**





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