

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Bloomington Public Schools uses bi-yearly progress reports as one method of keeping you informed about how your elementary student is doing in school. The progress reports clearly outline the specific learning goals within the curriculum at each grade level and are designed to communicate information about your child's individual strengths, progress toward mastering end-of-year grade level goals, and areas where additional development and support might be needed.

Levels of proficiency are indicated for each essential benchmark within a strand. Benchmarks are statements of what students should know and be able to do by the **end of the year**. Most students will not meet all of the year-end goals in the first semester of the school year.

ELEMENTARY STANDARDS		
	Term	
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	← Subject	S2
READING: LITERATURE	← Strand	
Ask and answer questions about key details and ideas in a text.		
Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.	← Benchmark	
Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.		
Use illustrations and details in a story to describe its characters, setting, or events.		

Throughout the year, teachers use a variety of assessments to measure student performance against these benchmarks and report proficiency using the following criteria:

Meets Expectations (3): The student demonstrates consistent mastery of the grade level benchmark. The student can apply end-of-grade level knowledge and skills accurately and with independence.

Developing Skills (2): The student demonstrates partial mastery of the knowledge and skills expected at grade level. Performance varies in regard to accuracy and level of independence. The student may require support to meet the benchmark but is progressing toward meeting end-of-year expectations.

Beginning Skills (1): The student demonstrates limited knowledge and skills related to grade-level goals. The student requires substantial support and may still be working on prerequisite skills necessary to meet the benchmark.

In some areas, the highest score you will see reported for a benchmark is a 3: Meets Expectations. In other cases, a student may demonstrate a deep level of understanding and application of the knowledge and skills expected at grade level as well as mastery of concepts that extend beyond or are more rigorous than the grade-level standard. In this case, a student may receive a score of **Exceeds Expectations (4)**.

If you have questions about your child's scores or progress, please contact his or her teacher. If you have questions about standards-based grading and reporting, please visit the Elementary Curriculum and Instruction webpage at bloomingtonschools.org/elem-curriculum.