

# Family Guide to Student Growth Percentile (SGP)

## What is a Student Growth Percentile?

A Student Growth Percentile (SGP) describes your child's learning over time compared with his or her academic peers. For student growth purposes, peers are other Rhode Island students in the same grade who had similar scores on previous state tests. An SGP is a number between 1 (*least growth*) and 99 (*most growth*). For example, if your child has an SGP of 80, we can say your child showed more growth between state assessments than 80 percent of his or her academic peers.

<b>SGP 34 and below</b>	Your child may be losing ground compared with his or her academic peers. You may want to talk to your child's teacher or principal to ensure that your child is making appropriate progress.
<b>SGP between 35 and 69</b>	Your child is making average progress compared with his or her academic peers. You may want to talk to your child's teacher or principal to ensure that your child is on track to meet the learning expectations for his or her grade level.
<b>SGP 70 and above</b>	Your child is making progress and is on track to meet the learning expectations for his or her grade level.

## Why is the Student Growth Percentile (SGP) important?

Achievement levels are important because they let you know if your child is meeting the learning expectations for his or her grade level, but they tell one part of the story. An SGP allows us to measure the progress your child is making in school in some key subject areas. Along with other indicators such as test scores and course grades, SGPs provide information about your child's performance – where your child is now as well as the progress your child is making over time.

## My child has a low Student Growth Percentile (SGP); what should I do next?

Remember that SGPs, while useful, are just one way to look at student performance. Be sure to consider all aspects of your child's performance – such as other test scores, classroom performance, and teacher observations – along *with* SGPs when you discuss with your child's teachers the best way to support or accelerate your child's academic performance. When speaking with teachers about your child's learning progress, questions you may want to ask during these conversations include:

- ✓ *Did my child make adequate progress and meet the learning expectations for his or her grade last year in English Language Arts and math, or is my child losing ground?*
- ✓ *What steps can we take to help my child catch up this year?*

