

## **GOLD for 4K & Early Learning Sessions**

### 2020-21 Academic Year

#### **What is it?**

*Teaching Strategies GOLD* is a research-based system proven to be reliable and valid for assessing children's comprehensive development. It is inclusive of all children, including English-language learners, and children with disabilities. This authentic, observation-based assessment measures children's knowledge, skills and behaviors progress against 38 objectives based on predictors of school success and state early learning standards. Objectives are grouped into 7 primary areas: Social-Emotional, Physical, Language, Cognition, Literacy, Mathematics, and English Language Acquisition.

#### **Why is this assessment given?**

This assessment is given to help teachers observe and document children's development and learning over time; guide and inform planning and instruction; identify children who might benefit from intervention and/or further evaluation; report and communicate with families and others.

GOLD is set up for ongoing assessment and progress monitoring throughout the year, with three scheduled "checkpoint/summary" dates.

#### **Who takes this assessment?**

As the primary assessment used within MMSD Early Learning Sessions and district 4K classrooms, teachers utilize this tool with all enrolled 3-4 year olds.

#### **How is the assessment given?**

GOLD is an observation-based tool. Teachers gather assessment information during the daily course of the ELS/4K day by planning for lessons/activities based on the GOLD objectives and capturing pictures and/or anecdotal evidence of children's understanding. The teacher then inputs this information into the GOLD Online system, either through the GOLD App, or his/her desktop.

GOLD has downloadable pdf checklists that teachers can print, mark the children's status during play/activity, and then upload the information to the GOLD website.

## **When is the assessment given?**

GOLD is an ongoing assessment and is administered for progress monitoring and benchmarking purposes, throughout the year.

Teachers use the data from the assessment for adapting their planning and content of instruction throughout the year; minimally at 3 required checkpoints.

## **How will results be shared?**

Results are shared on an 'as needed' basis, for IEP progress reporting, and for 4K Report Card grading. For families of children who require immediate intervention, summary data will be shared and action will be taken to aid in adjusted styles of instruction.

## **How does this assessment reflect my child's performance?**

As a comprehensive, observation based measurement, GOLD reflects a child's current level of skill in many areas, and should be used with family input for a final picture of your child's current level of performance as well as their growth over time.

For more information, contact Tim Peterson:

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[mmsd.org/assessment](http://mmsd.org/assessment)

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