

### PARENT RESOURCE CENTER

Parent Center Location: Title I Lab, hours 7:15-2:00 Monday - Friday.  
Pave the way to academic success--check out our reading/math activities!

### GEORGIA MILESTONES ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL DESCRIPTORS FROM THE GADOE.ORG WEBSITE

With the implementation of the Georgia Milestones Assessment System, Georgia educators have developed 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.*

## THE PARENT INSTITUTE WEB CONTENT SERVICE: TODAY'S TIPS FOR PARENTS



Check out our NFE website to see "THE PARENT INSTITUTE WEB CONTENT SERVICE". Find daily-updated school success information, ideas and tips on this very useful website.

### Get Your Child Organized For the New Year

You started the school year with great hopes. This year, your child wouldn't have any last-minute rushes to find a lost book or homework assignment. This year, your family would be out the door and at the bus stop in plenty of time.

Well, now the school year is half gone. And if your family is like most, there are probably some areas where your good intentions have slipped. Here are some things that can help your kids take more responsibility for getting ready for school each day:

- **Tape the sides** of a file folder together and hang it on your refrigerator door. Use it as a place for your kids to put those permission slips and other important papers you have to sign and return the next day.
- **Get a big basket** and label it "Library Books." Have everyone keep books there when they aren't being read. Write the due date for all library books on your family calendar as soon as you bring them home from the library.
- **Have your kids** write down the due date for any big projects on your family calendar. Some families write each person's assignments in a different color.
- **Get your kids** in the habit of packing their backpacks the night before school. Over and over, say to them, "Your homework's not finished until it's in the backpack." Then set the backpacks by the door so they can be grabbed on the way to the bus.

### Teach Your Child How to Develop Inner Motivation

At one time or another, most parents use rewards to motivate their children. And there's no question that reward systems work.

But when the rewards stop, sometimes the good behavior stops, too. That's especially important to remember when it comes to studying. Researchers have found that students who are motivated only by the desire to get a good grade rarely do more than the minimum they need to get by.

However, when students are motivated by an inner reward, they are more likely to stick with a task. Students with inner motivation learn because they're curious. They retain what they have learned longer, and they earn higher grades.

Here's how to help your child develop this inner motivation to learn:

- **Start with his interests.** Before he works on a project, have him think about what he wants to learn.
- **Help him see progress** as he works on a big task.
- **Ask your child** to share what he's learning with you.
- **Give positive feedback**, but encourage him to praise himself for a job well done.

### Are You Making Sure Your Child Isn't Overscheduled?

Many children today have plenty on their schedules, from activities to practices. On top of that, children are constantly "plugged in" to cell phones and computers. Are you making sure your child has enough time for schoolwork and family time?

Answer *yes* or *no* to the questions below:

- \_\_\_ 1 **Do you have** some "no tech" times at your house? That means you all take a break from TV, Internet & cell phones.
- \_\_\_ 2 **Does your child have** some downtime? Is he scheduled every day?
- \_\_\_ 3 **Do you avoid** worrying if your child says he's bored? That's a time when his imagination can take over.
- \_\_\_ 4 **Do you set** some limits on how many things your child can do?
- \_\_\_ 5 **Do you spend** some time just "hanging out" as a family?

### How well are you doing?

**More yes answers mean that you're doing a good job making sure your child isn't overscheduled or over programmed. For each no answer, try that idea from the quiz.**