About GKIDS 2.0

The Georgia Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills 2.0 (GKIDS 2.0) is a yearlong, progression-based formative assessment. GKIDS 2.0 is aligned to the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for kindergarten and is organized around big ideas and learning progressions.

GKIDS 2.0 will:
- Measure your child’s knowledge and skills in up to seven areas of learning
- Help teachers plan instruction
- Help families understand their child’s progress over time

GKIDS 2.0 will NOT:
- Determine if your child is promoted to first grade

Big Ideas and Learning Progressions

GKIDS 2.0 is based upon big ideas and learning progressions.

A big idea describes kindergarten skills that are most important for success in first grade. Each big idea consists of one or more learning progressions.

A learning progression shows how your child will have opportunities over the school year to demonstrate understanding of skills from least difficult to most difficult.

Domains of Learning

With GKIDS 2.0, students are assessed in both academic and non-academic domains.

- Academic Domains
  - English language arts
  - Mathematics
  - Science (optional)
  - Social Studies (optional)

- Non-Academic Domains
  - Approaches to Learning
  - Personal and Social Development
  - Motor Skills (optional)

Georgia requires that kindergarten students be assessed in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Approaches to Learning, and Personal and Social Development. School districts may determine if their kindergarten teachers will assess Science, Social Studies, and Motor Skills through GKIDS 2.0.

Results

Throughout the school year, your child’s teacher will document your child’s performance on each learning progression. At any time during the year, your child’s teacher can provide you with a report showing your child’s progress along the progressions.
Performance Levels

Each learning progression has a carefully designed set of performance levels that allow your child’s teacher and you as a parent to understand where your child is in his or her development on that progression. Your child’s performance on the progression is typically assessed with the following performance levels:

- Exceeding (EX)
- Demonstrating (DM)
- Developing (DV)
- Emerging (EM)
- Beginning (BE)
- Not Yet Demonstrating (NYD)

Throughout the school year, your child’s performance may range from Not Yet Demonstrating to Exceeding.

Learning Progressions

Below are the learning progressions included in each domain assessed on GKIDS 2.0. As a reminder, Science, Social Studies, and Motor Skills are optional and local school districts will determine if these areas are assessed.

English language arts
- Phonemic Awareness
- Phonics
- High-Frequency Words
- Comprehension
- Conventions of Writing
- Spelling
- Communication of Ideas

Mathematics
- Shapes
- Counting-Number
- Counting-Objects
- Compare
- Addition and Subtraction

Science
- Physical Attributes
- Motion
- Organisms and Non-living Objects
- Time Patterns
- Earth Materials

Social Studies
- Historical Understandings
- Geographic Understandings
- Civic Understandings
- Economic Understandings

Approaches to Learning
- Curiosity and Initiative
- Creativity and Problem-Solving
- Attention, Engagement, and Persistence

Personal and Social Development
- Personal Development and Social Regulation
- Social Development/Classroom Interactions

Motor Skills
- Gross Motor Skills
- Fine Motor Skills

Universally Designed Allowances

GKIDS 2.0 is designed to provide information for all students enrolled in kindergarten. Because of the range of students’ development and learning in kindergarten, features are included in the assessment to ensure that all students have an opportunity to show what they know and can do.

How can I learn more about GKIDS 2.0?

The GKIDS 2.0 parent website provides additional information on GKIDS 2.0, guidance on understanding the individual student report, as well as activities that may be completed at home to support students’ understanding of the big ideas within each domain.