

Learning Proficiency Scales for Elementary Units

A learning goal is a statement of what students will know or be able to do. Learning goals can be about what students will understand and what students will be able to perform. Martin County teachers have been working for three years to create learning goals and proficiency scales to align with state standards. A proficiency or learning scale presents knowledge or skills as a continuum of *simpler*, *target*, and *complex* goals that students sequentially work toward. The chart below represents a generic learning scale:

4.0	Complex learning goal
3.0	Target learning goal
2.0	Simpler learning goal, prerequisite skills
1.0	With help, partial success at score 2.0 and score 3.0
0.0	Even with help, no success

Here is a mathematics example of a proficiency scale tied to an academic learning goal:

4.0	The student will investigate how remainders are expressed (for example with fractions or decimal notation) or otherwise dealt with (for example, dropping, rounding, or sharing) in the real world.
3.0	The student will solve division word problems in which remainders must be interpreted.
2.0	The student will recognize or recall specific vocabulary such as: dividend, divisor, and remainder. The student will recall basic processes such as: identify remainders when solving division number problems (non-word problems)
1.0	With help, partial success at the 2.0 content and 3.0 content
0.0	Even with help, no success

In most proficiency scales, the 3.0 represents the target learning goal. The simpler learning goal is at the 2.0 level and the more complex goal is at the 4.0. Martin County teachers have developed learning scales after unwrapping the standards to determine what students should be able to know and do. Additionally, Martin County teachers used these unwrapped standards and proficiency scales to create a scope and sequence for Martin County's elementary schools.

Parents can view the proficiency scales used for English language arts, mathematics and science for students in grades K-5.

Reporting Progress using the scale

M	P	N
The target end-of-year goal of 3.0 or higher	2.0	1.0, 0.0