GOLD® by TeachingStrategies® is an observation-based child assessment that is:

✓ Valid and reliable

✓ Appropriate for children ages birth through Kindergarten including children with disabilities and Dual Language Learners

✓ Aligned to the Louisiana Birth to Five Early Learning and Development Standards

✓ One of the informational metrics on the state's Early Childhood Performance Profiles found on **www.louisianaschools.com**

✓ Built on 38 Objectives for Development and Learning that measure children's learning and growth in the areas of Social/Emotional, Physical, Language and Literacy, Cognitive, Science and Technology and Arts development

✓ Web-based and designed to generate individual child portfolios and reports

✓ User-friendly utilizing color coded progressions of development that show widely held expectations for children at each age of life

The GOLD® Assessment Cycle[1] includes:

Observe and Collect Facts — STEP 1
Analyze and Respond — STEP 2
Evaluate — STEP 3
Summarize, Plan and Communicate — STEP 4
ASSESSMENT PROCESS
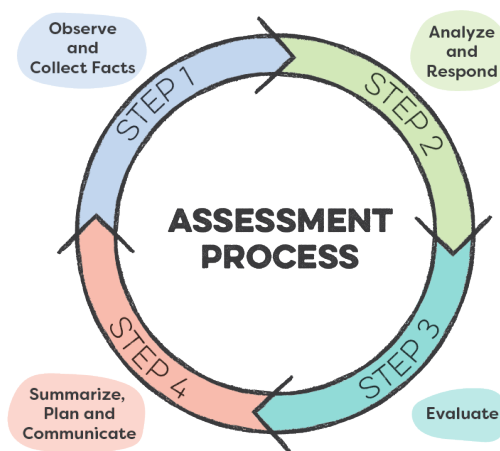
Birth to 1 Year of age	Preschool 3 (3 Years of age)
1 to 2 Years of age	Preschool 4 (4 Years of age)
2 to 3 Years of age	Kindergarten

EVALUATE

At 3 points during the year, teachers will make determinations on how a child is progressing in relation to the *Objectives for Development and Learning.* These progress "Checkpoints" are finalized according to the following schedule:

October 31	February 28	May 31

GOLD® SUPPORT FOR TEACHERS

• Offers a systematic way to accurately observe and document children's learning

• Builds understanding of children's strengths, needs and interests

• Guides and informs planning and instruction

• Helps in making adjustments to teaching practices to create opportunities for high-quality interactions (as measured by the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)

• Aids in identifying children in need of special help, screening or further evaluation

• Provides a mechanism for reporting and communicating children's progress to families and others

• Offers an array of tools and resources to support the assessment process

GOLD® SUPPORT FOR PRINCIPALS & DIRECTORS

Offers a suite of reports for each of their classes useful for:

• Knowing how each child in their program is developing and being prepared for successful entry into kindergarten

• Determining professional development and support needed by staff to make improvements to their teaching

• Making decisions related to improving the overall quality of their programs

• Linking families to the education and assessment process

• Provides access for teachers to online basic training and reliability certification

• Includes a 'Help' feature with hundreds of resources including printable documents, video tutorials, webinars, and guides

HOW PRINCIPALS & DIRECTORS CAN SUPPORT THEIR TEACHERS IN USING *GOLD*®

- Ensure all teachers and others who work closely with children have received training (In Person or Online)

- Help teachers develop plans for conducting assessments (for example: what data to collect, how often, which children, etc.)

- Provide time for teachers to collect and enter assessment artifacts online and to evaluate children's progress (e.g. finalize Checkpoints)

- Provide support and/or coaching for teachers to use assessment data to plan lessons and to communicate with families and others

- Periodically review reports and other *GOLD*® documentation with teachers

- Below are suggested trainings for all early childhood educators that assess children using *GOLD*®. The following trainings are free of charge and available to anyone with a MyTeachStrategies account.

  » **GOLD® Introduction** (2 hrs)

  » **Introducing MyTeachingStrategies®** (2 hrs)

  » Objectives for Development and Learning (10 hrs)

  » **Interrater Reliability Certification**

For *GOLD*® technical support and other questions about *GOLD*®

- LDOE Support

  » In order to provide consistent support in a timely manner, the Early Childhood Team asks all TS *GOLD*® questions to **ECAssessment@la.gov**.

- Technical Support

  » Louisiana Technical Support Line: 866-248-2575

- Teaching Strategies *GOLD*® Support

  » Teaching Strategies *GOLD*® Support Email: **techsupport@teachingstrategies.com**

  » **TeachingStrategies Support Portal**

  » **TS *GOLD*® Guidance PDF**

  » **TS *GOLD*® FAQ PDF**