

Learn More about STAR™ Growth Targets

Renaissance Learning™ is committed to developing products to support our mission to accelerate learning for all. Growth targets, or setting goals for growth, is a focus of educators instructing children. Renaissance Learning listened to educators and collaborated with teachers to develop the Growth Target, something that will help provide actionable data that teachers may use to improve student learning.

What is a Growth Target?

The growth target in STAR Enterprise™ was built for district administrators to help them see whether the students in the district are meeting growth expectations. District administrators, or district designated staff member, use the growth target to assign a growth target for all schools in the district. The target is selected using Student Growth Percentile (SGP). SGP compares a student's growth to that of his or her academic peers nationwide. Academic peers are students in the same grade with a similar scaled score on a STAR™ assessment at the beginning of the time period being examined. SGP is reported on a 1–99 scale, with lower numbers indicating lower relative growth and higher numbers indicating higher relative growth. For example, if a student has an SGP of 40, it means the student has shown more growth than 40 percent of academic peers. The growth target may be selected in increments of 5 SGP, ranging from 5 to 70. After the administrator selects the school's target, assessment results may be monitored to adjust instruction for each learner.

The growth target is modeled on the typical school year instructional cycle: Fall, Winter, Spring.

Fall

- Students participate in baseline STAR assessments
- Administrator sets growth target
- Teacher plans instruction

Winter

- Students participate in mid-year STAR assessments
- Administrator monitors results
- Teacher monitors SGP and adjusts instruction as needed

Spring

- Students participate in end-of-year STAR assessments
- Teacher and administrator examine final data

About Selecting the Growth Target

The selected specific SGP (5–70) is managed by the administrator. Renaissance Learning does not recommend a SGP Growth Target number. Schools may plan to examine previous year's data as a baseline reference before determining the current year growth target.