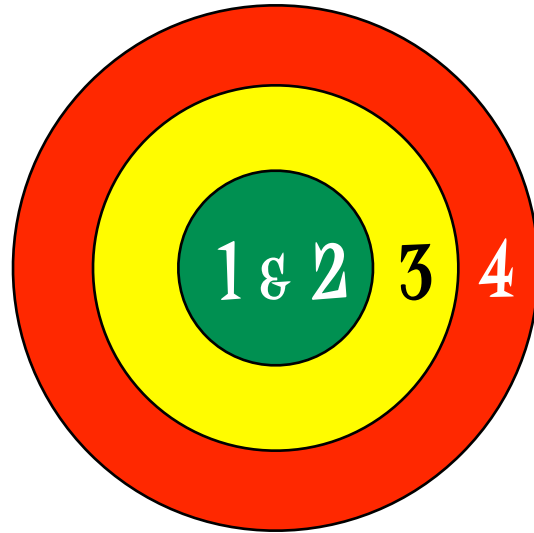


Clear Targets



The evaluation (marks) portion of your child's report card will include a numbering system from 1-4. You will see the criteria for each number below. This criteria will also appear on your child's report card. Please notice that the criteria for a 1 as an academic mark and the criteria for a 1 as an effort mark are different.

It is important for children to know what they are aiming for and what we are expecting of them. As teachers we attempt to make it clear to students the goal of a lesson and what we are expecting them to learn or do as a result.

To make the curriculum clear for students we put the learning outcomes into child friendly language, what we call "clear targets". I attach an activity or project to each target so that when I review a unit with students I can say, remember that experiment we did or book we made? That was showing what you learned about that topic.

Your child will have the opportunity to evaluate their own learning and I will provide my feedback. This is the first year I have used the target system and I hope that it makes learning more meaningful for parents and students. Where children have been absent for a large portion of a unit of study I will do my best to make up that work. In some cases this is not possible and so I will evaluate the student on the material they were present for.

The most contentious part of the target is that 1 spot! Imagine that there is a darker green centre. A 2 is well within where we hope students will be at their grade level. It is a very good mark. A 1 is a wow, someone who has gone above and beyond the expectations. Just like a target in archery, someone may hit the bulls-eye in the centre or they may hit the edge of the green just next to yellow. I hope that as you review the report card with your child you will focus on their successes and their strengths (their "stars") and then together choose a few areas on which to improve (their "wishes"). School is not a contest or a tallying of marks. It is a learning and growing experience in a classroom full of children with very different learning styles, talents and abilities.

Thank you for taking the time to read this! I look forward to seeing you at student-led conferences in November!

Madame Shannon Wiebe