# Understanding Your Child's Test Scores 

What do all those norm-referenced test percentiles actually mean?


## What is a Standard Score?

These scores allow us to compare scores to each other. On most tests a standard score of 100 is the mean (average). Standard scores ranging from $85-115$ is considered the average range since about $68 \%$ of individuals will fall in that range. However, standard score distribution can sometimes vary by test. Due to this variance it is important to be aware of, but ask for information about the percentile if it is not given.

What does the Percentile tell me?
A percentile tells you the percentage of students that your child's score was higher than. For example, if your child had a score in the 27 th percentile that means they had a score that was higher than $27 \%$ of students their age.

