

What does learning at Embark mean?

At Embark Education, we prioritize learning at 3 different levels.

- 1.) Our **why** is to support students to embody our **learner profile**. The five traits that make up the profile--aware, courageous, curious, resilient, and revolutionary--are who we hope learners at Embark become. This is our most important outcome.
- 2.) **How** we support our learners to grow into our learner profile traits is through our **competencies**. These are a set of skills students need to develop to embody the learner profile. These competencies are: agency, collaboration, communication, critical thinking, quantitative reasoning, and reflection. We plan projects, assessments and feedback around these competencies.
- 3.) **What** students learn is grounded in Common Core Math and ELA **standards** as well as National Science and Social Studies standards. The standards help define the context for developing students' abilities in the competencies.

We developed the competencies because the traits of the learner profile are hard to teach and assess. Competencies represent the skills that we could teach and assess that underlie the learner profile traits.

How does our school measure learning?

Designing engaging and meaningful learning while providing quality feedback for growth is our primary goal. We use our competencies to guide the development of learning experiences supported by content standards. During a trimester, students are given feedback using a variety of assessments, including projects, discussions, reports, presentations, etc. Your child's progress report is based on all of their feedback across disciplines and assessments on their learning and their growth in the competencies. We capture and track all of this evidence of learning in the Altitude Learning Platform.

Why does our school measure learning this way?

Competency-based assessment is an important element of Embark Education's Learner-Centered model because:

- Each student (and their family) is able to see their strengths and areas of growth, which gives them the agency to take their own next steps in their learning journey
- Educators can better meet students where they are and support them
- A competency based model can lead to more equitable outcomes for each student

If you'd like to know more about the global shift in education toward competencies see this [article](#) for parents. To learn more about problems with traditional grading systems, see this [article](#).

What does our scoring scale mean?

The 3-point scale is a tool to measure mastery of a specific competency or standard.

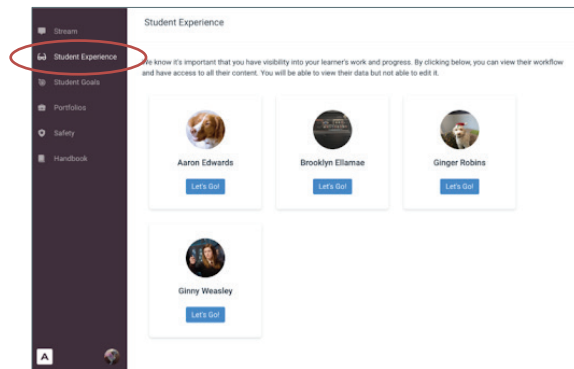
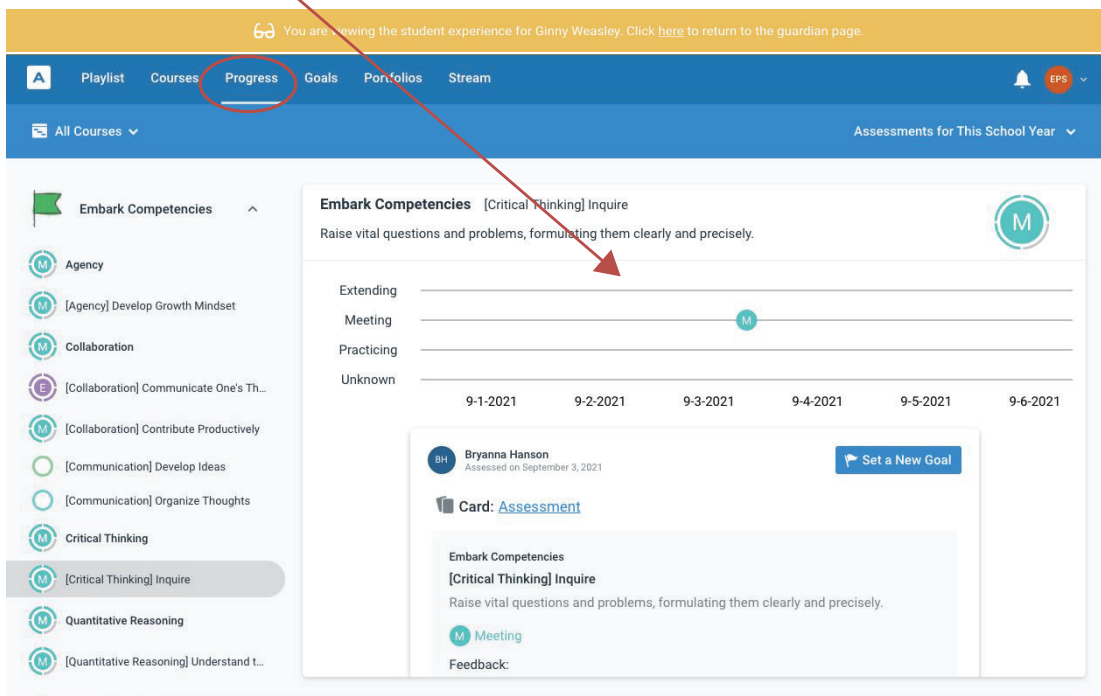
- Students are **practicing** that skill or concept as they work with the educator and their peers to build background knowledge, explore resources, and practice things on their own.
- Student are **meeting** when they effectively use that skill or concept in an appropriate context.
- Students are **extending** when they demonstrate deep understanding of that skill or concept, are able to apply it on their own, and connect it to other learning.

In a Competency-Based Assessment model "practicing" is not a failing score. In fact, many students will receive a "Practicing" score for quite a while as they build their skills.

How do I monitor my student's progress and growth in between progress reports?

- 1.) Log into embarkeducation.altitudelearning.com using your own email address
- 2.) Navigate to the "Student Experience" in the left side panel
- 3.) Click "Let's Go!" for the appropriate student
- 4.) You'll be brought to the exact student view. The yellow band at the top reminds you that you are viewing the student experience.
- 5.) Click on the "Progress" Tab
- 6.) Click on "Embark Competencies" and then the subskills (non-bolded) themselves to see the specific assessment feedback. The competencies are in bold.

You can click on a score to find out more and see the narrative feedback from the educator and all student work associated with that score.

You are viewing the student experience for Ginny Weasley. [Click here](#) to return to the guardian page.

Playlist Courses **Progress** Goals Portfolios Stream

All Courses Assessments for This School Year

Embark Competencies [Critical Thinking] Inquire

Raise vital questions and problems, formulating them clearly and precisely.

| | |
|------------|----------------------|
| Extending | _____ |
| Meeting | _____ M _____ |
| Practicing | _____ |
| Unknown | _____ |

9-1-2021 9-2-2021 9-3-2021 9-4-2021 9-5-2021 9-6-2021

BH Bryanna Hanson
Assessed on September 3, 2021 [Set a New Goal](#)

Card: Assessment

Embark Competencies
[Critical Thinking] Inquire
Raise vital questions and problems, formulating them clearly and precisely.

M Meeting

Feedback:

