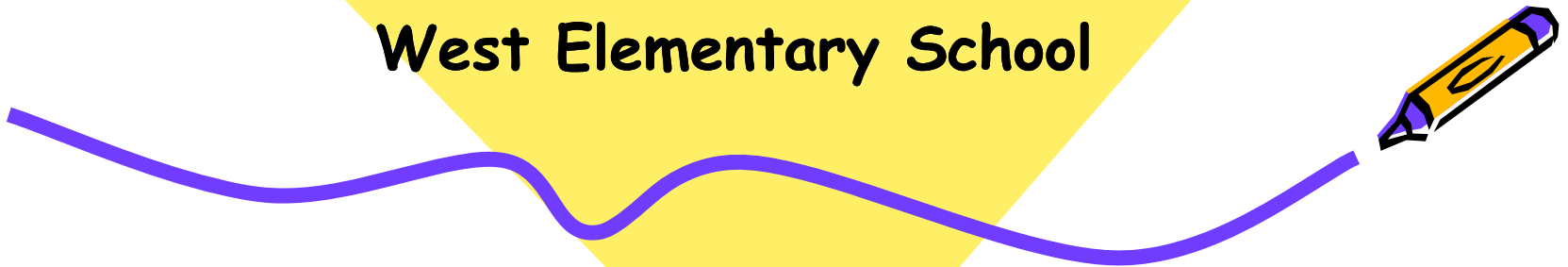




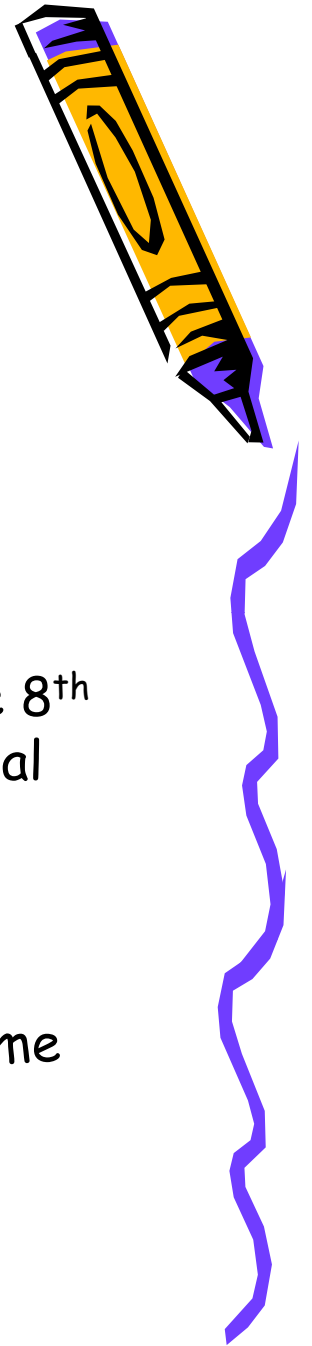
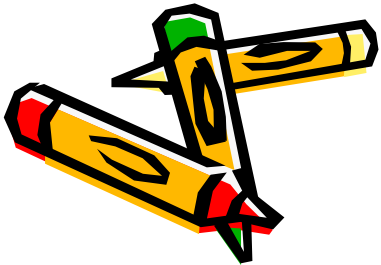
Understanding ITBS Scores

A Parent Guide
West Elementary School



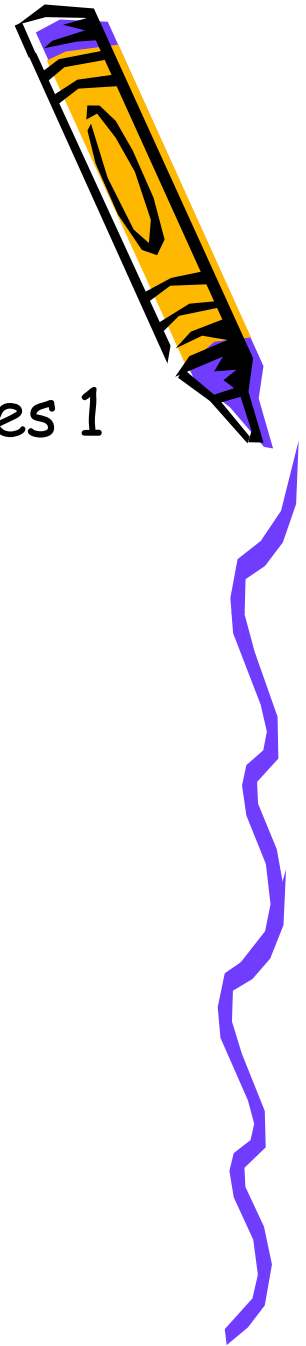
Overview

- ITBS is an acronym for the Iowa Test of Basic Skills.
- West Elementary ITBS testing is conducted in April.
- April is the 4th month of the calendar year, but it is the 8th month of the school calendar - this information is critical later on in the presentation.
- The ITBS is a "norm-referenced" test that compares a student's performance to others who have taken the same test under the same conditions.



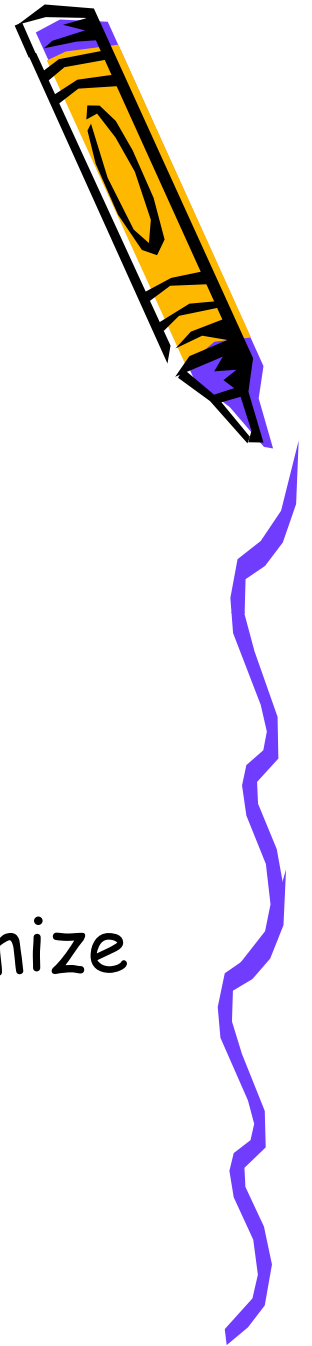
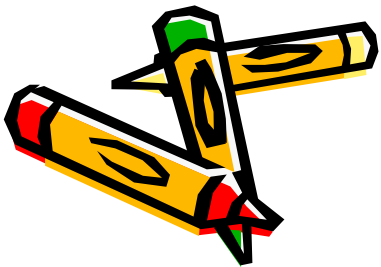
Overview

- The ITBS is administered to students in grades 1 and 2 at West Elementary.
- The test is a "snapshot" which indicates a student's performance at a specific time.
- The ITBS has been used across the nation in similar form since 1935, and is supported by exemplary research and documentation.



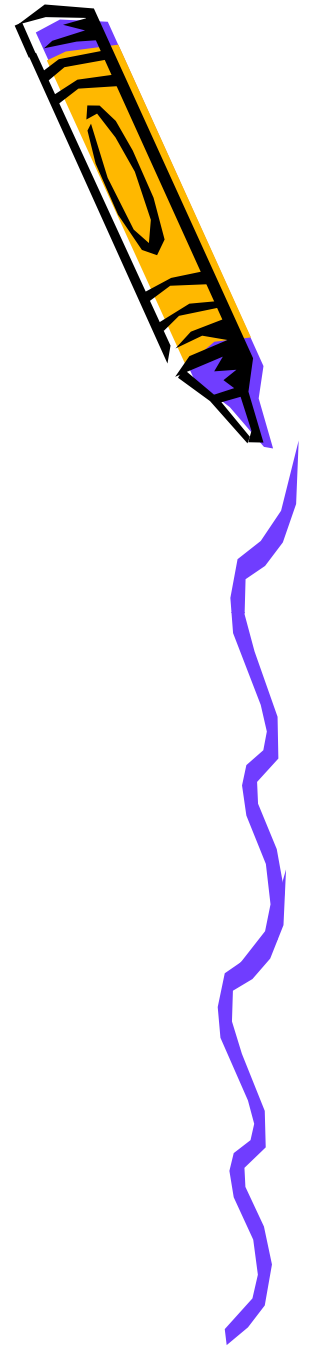
Why Test?

- To provide insight into the relative strengths and weaknesses in specific subject areas.
- To allow teachers and school administrators to make appropriate adjustments to the curriculum to maximize student achievement.



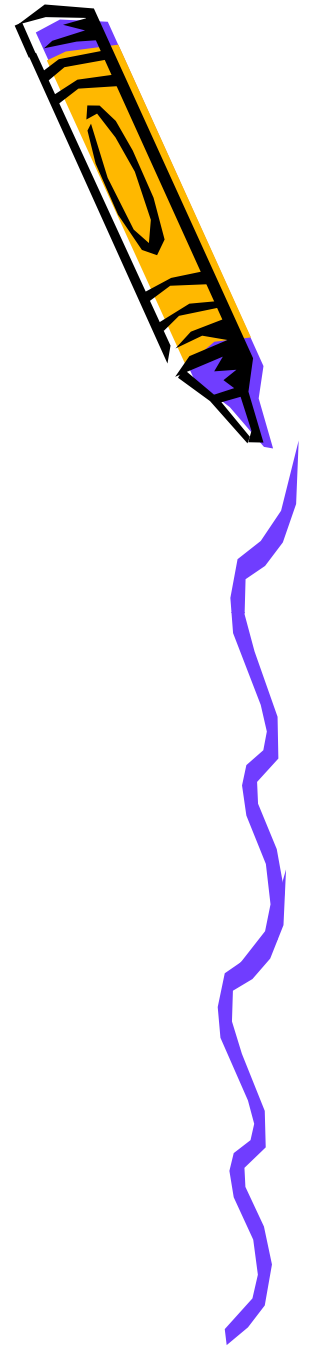
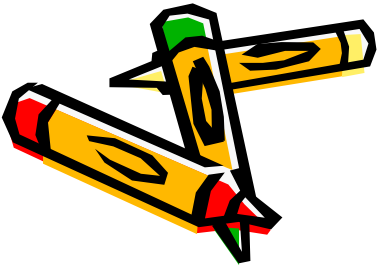
Why Test?

- To provide a means of describing a student's developmental level in a given area.
- To monitor student progress over time.
- To identify areas for enrichment or remediation in differentiating student instruction.



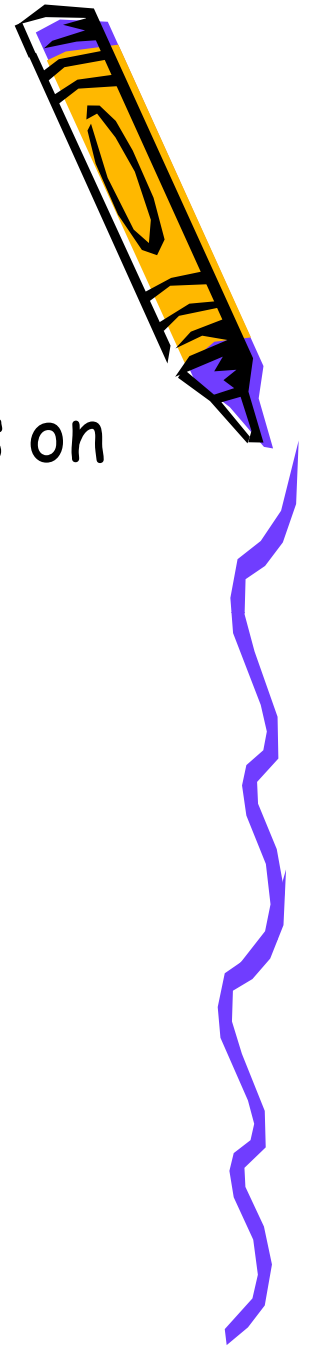
Why Test?

- Last but not least -
we will use the data from the
ITBS as one our tools to move
from "Good to Great".



What Are These Codes?

- The most useful and important scores on the ITBS are:
 1. GE - Grade Equivalent
 2. NPR - National Percentile Rank
 3. Stanine Scores - the standard nine



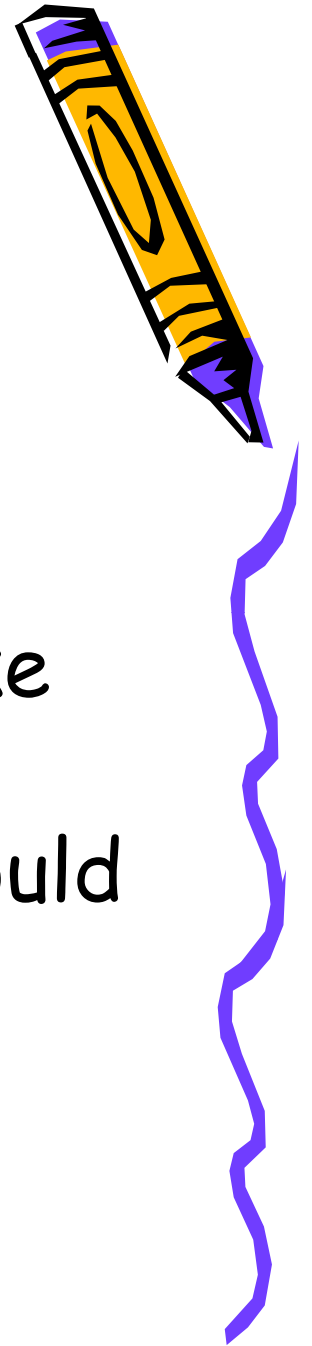
Grade Equivalent (GE)

- A decimal number that indicates the grade level and the months (e.g. 2.2 would indicate a student is at second-grade level in the second month of school).
- GE's indicate what the average student in the indicated level would achieve.



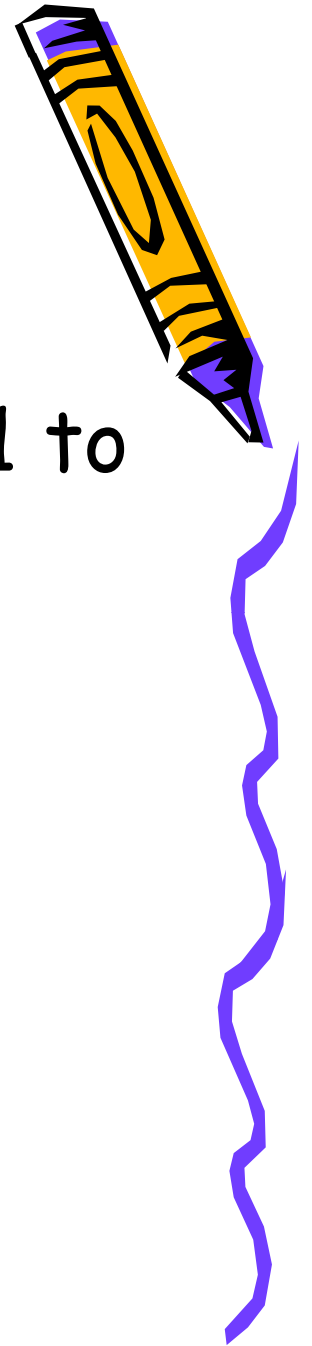
GE-Example

- Example: My first grade child received a 2.7 GE in Spelling.
- This indicates that her score is like the one a typical student in the seventh month of second grade would likely get on that same test.



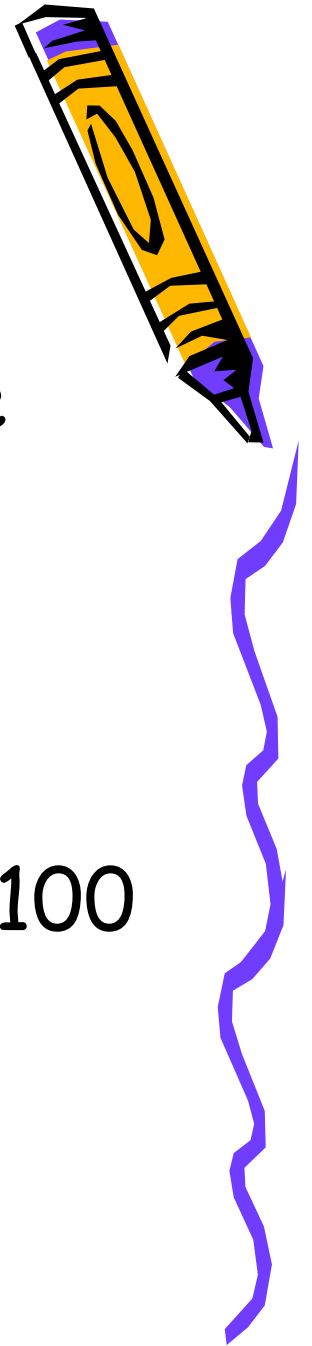
National Percentile Ranking (NPR)

- This is an indication ranging from 1 to 99 showing what "percentile" your child's score corresponds to in relation to others taking the same test.
- This is NOT the percent correct.



NPR - Example

- My second grade son scored in the 89th percentile in Reading Comprehension.
- This means that approximately 88 out of every 100 students' scores were lower, and about 11 of every 100 students' scores were higher than your child's score.



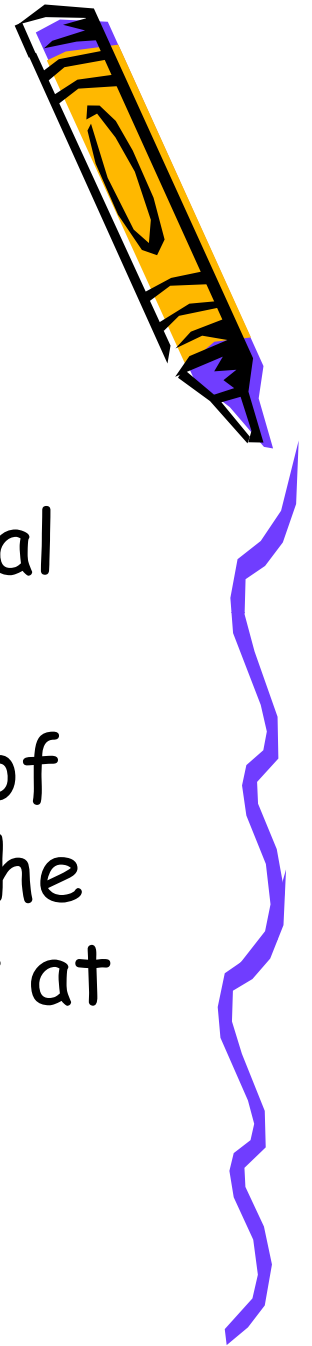
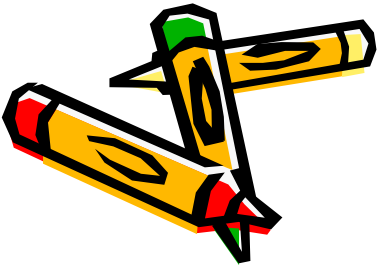
Stanine Scores

- Stanine scores show a student's relative position in a group of students who took the same test at the same time of the year nationally.
- The standard nine stanine method ranges from a low of 1 to a high of 9 and have an average value of 5;
 - » 1,2 or 3 is below average
 - » 4,5 or 6 is average
 - » 7,8 or 9 is above average
- These are less precise indicators than the detailed NPR's.
- Stanines are a convenient way to identify areas of strength and weakness in a set of test scores.



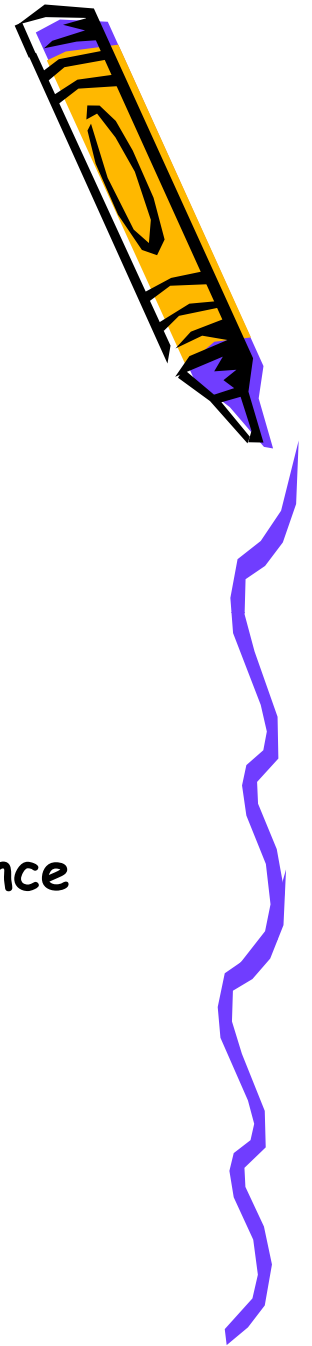
Stanine- Example

- My second grade son received a stanine score of 6 in his Math Total score.
- This means that out of the group of students that took the same test he performed within the average, but at the high end of the average.



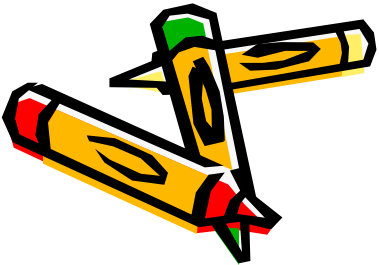
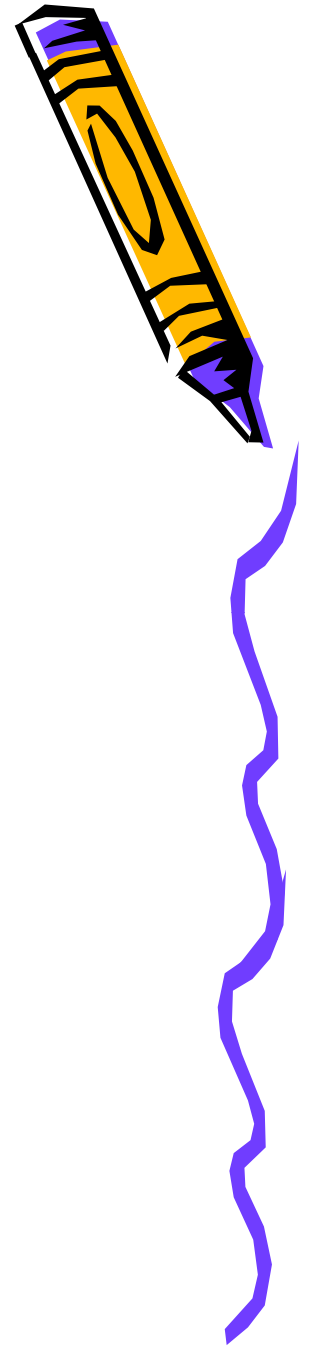
What is West Elementary Doing To Lift and Move Each Child?

- The tests are used to identify areas of opportunity in **PLANNING** for:
 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - Differentiated Instruction
 - Curriculum Improvements and Enhancements
 - Inclusion of more hands-on activities to enhance student learning.
 - Providing targeted instruction to address the greatest needs.



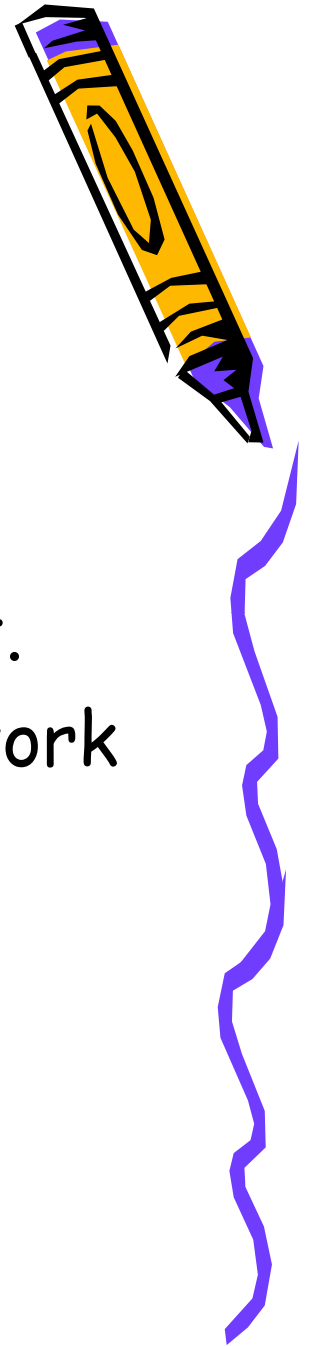
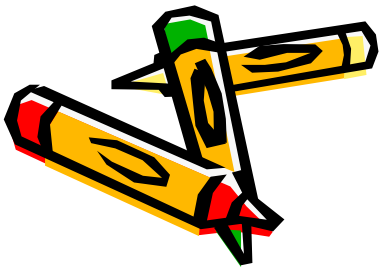
How is West Elementary Evaluating School Wide Achievement Results?

- A profile of year to year results by class is built to ensure that we are evaluating long term longitudinal data:
 - Targeting at least 12 months year to year growth by subject
 - Providing incoming staff with an in-depth look at long term curriculum opportunities for improvement and enhancement
 - Researching inclusion opportunities for activities to enhance classroom dynamics that empower group learning



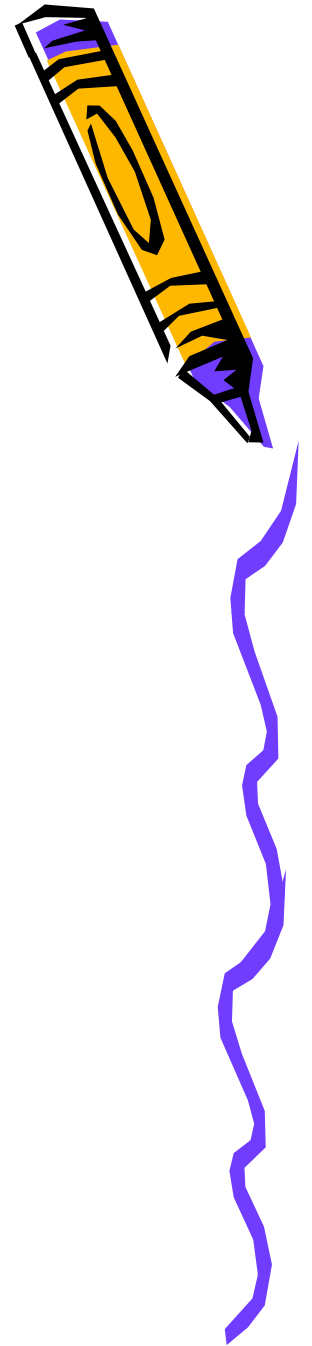
How Can I Help At Home?

- Understand your child's academic strengths and weaknesses.
- Be informed about what is being taught.
- Monitor your child's progress on homework and tests.
- Work with your child's teacher to determine areas of additional focus.



How Can I Help At Home?

- Provide additional help with homework.
- Provide or secure additional teacher resources and/or extra exercises that address deficient areas in your child's academic performance.
- Monitor your child's grades.



Questions ??

- ITBS results will be coming home with your child's report card.
- If you have additional questions after the results come home - please feel free to call me, Robert Fleming at 826-7540, or our counselor, Alison Janek.

