

Understanding Touch Points

Quantifying Our Work with Students

Our scoring system is based on Touch Points instead of quizzes and tests. Every time we touch base with a student—in a small group and one-on-one—we take notes and score their proficiency.

- 4** Exceeding Standard
- 3** Meeting Standard
- 2** Approaching Standard
- 1** Below Standard

For example, if a student needs Check for understanding to enhance comprehension, we introduce the strategy and put a 1 (for below standard) in the space under “Touch Point” on the student’s conferring form. The next time we meet with them, we give them a score to reflect their proficiency.

Once a child receives four or five 3s or 4s in a row, we trust they have competently added the strategy to the repertoire of strategies they have control of, and we layer on a new strategy to their instruction. Though we phase out direct instruction, we continue to monitor the strategy use periodically. So when you touch base, think Touch Point. It’s a great way to monitor progress toward a goal.