

The Iowa Assessment Program at All Saints

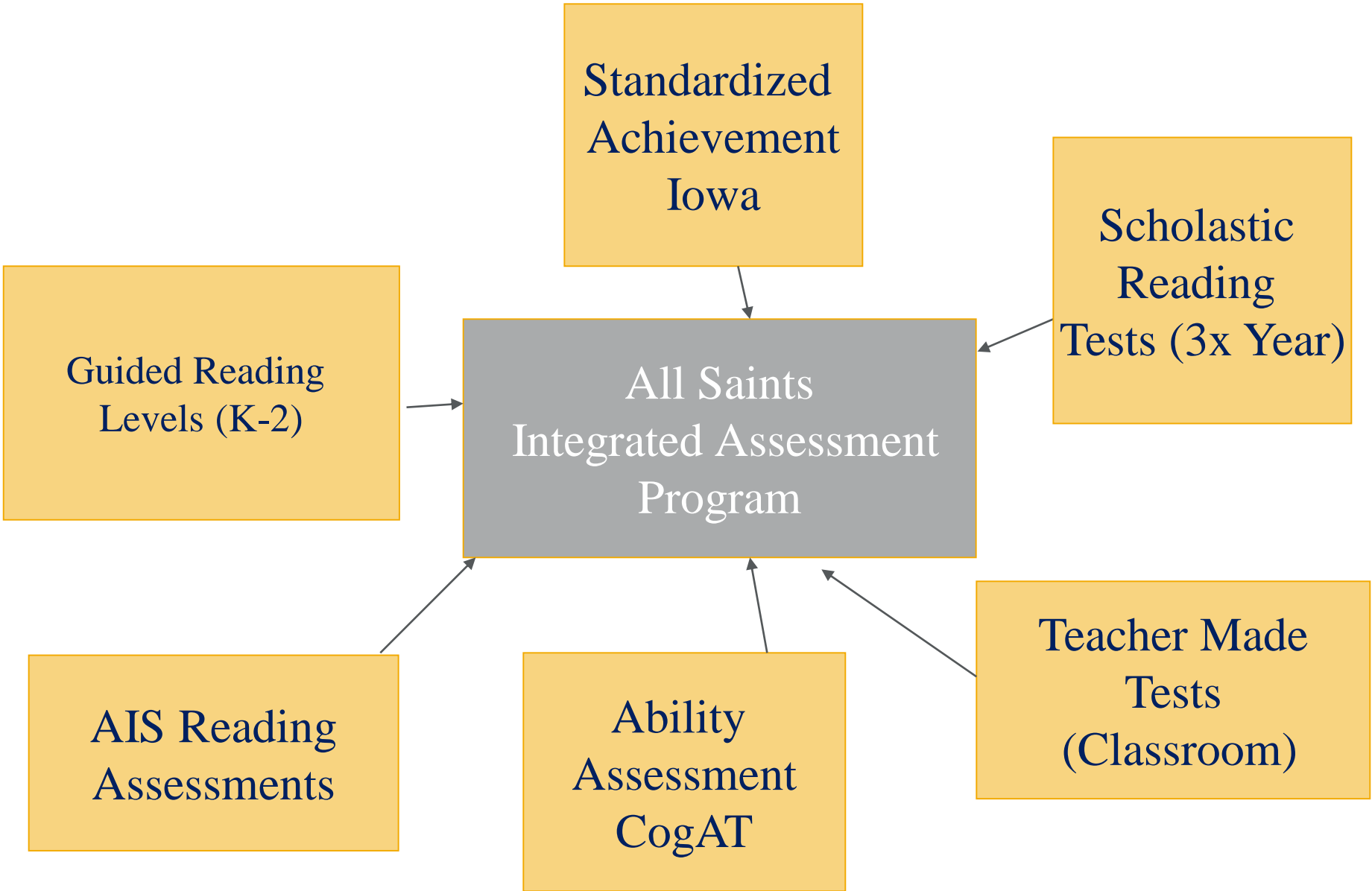
This slide show is to inform you about the national assessment program that your child takes in grades 3-8.

WHAT IS A STANDARDIZED TEST?

It is **not** a mastery test. It is designed to find out how much a student knows and compares your child's performance to his/her peers in the same grade across the county.

One Piece of Evidence of Learning

Information obtained from the Iowa Test and the Cognitive Abilities Test should be used with other information about your child.



Appropriate Purposes for Testing

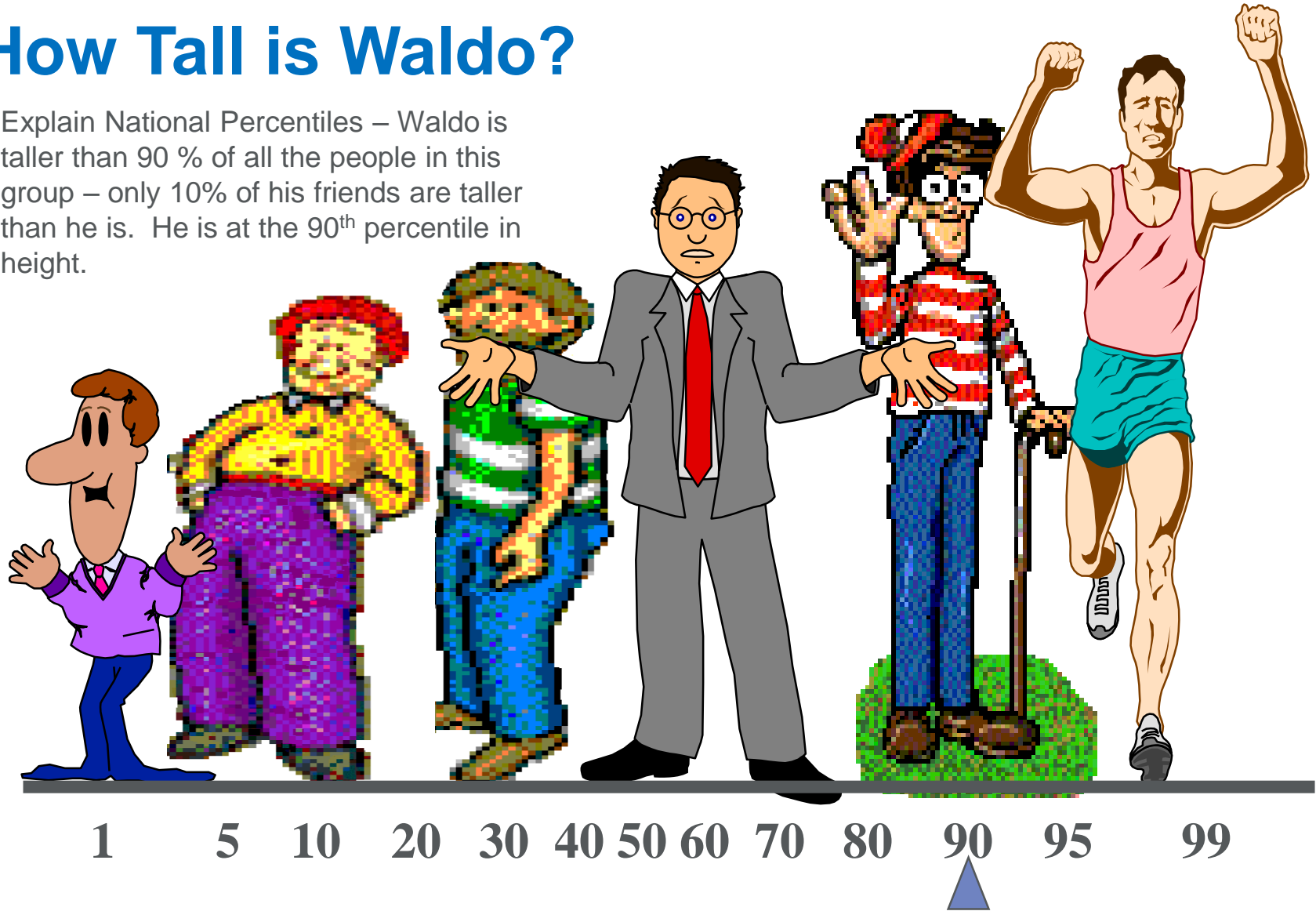
- Identify strengths and weaknesses of individual students
- Identify strengths and weaknesses of groups of students
- Monitor year to year developmental changes
- Provide feedback to students and parents

What is a Norm?

- Compares student performance to a representative sample of the population in the same grade and at the same time of the year
- An indicator of strengths and weaknesses in specific achievement areas.

How Tall is Waldo?

Explain National Percentiles – Waldo is taller than 90 % of all the people in this group – only 10% of his friends are taller than he is. He is at the 90th percentile in height.



How Heavy is Waldo?

In this slide, you can see that Waldo is lighter than most of his friends. He is heavier than only 20% of his friends – 80% of his friends are heavier than he is. – Waldo is at the 20th percentile when comparing weight.



1 5 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 95 99



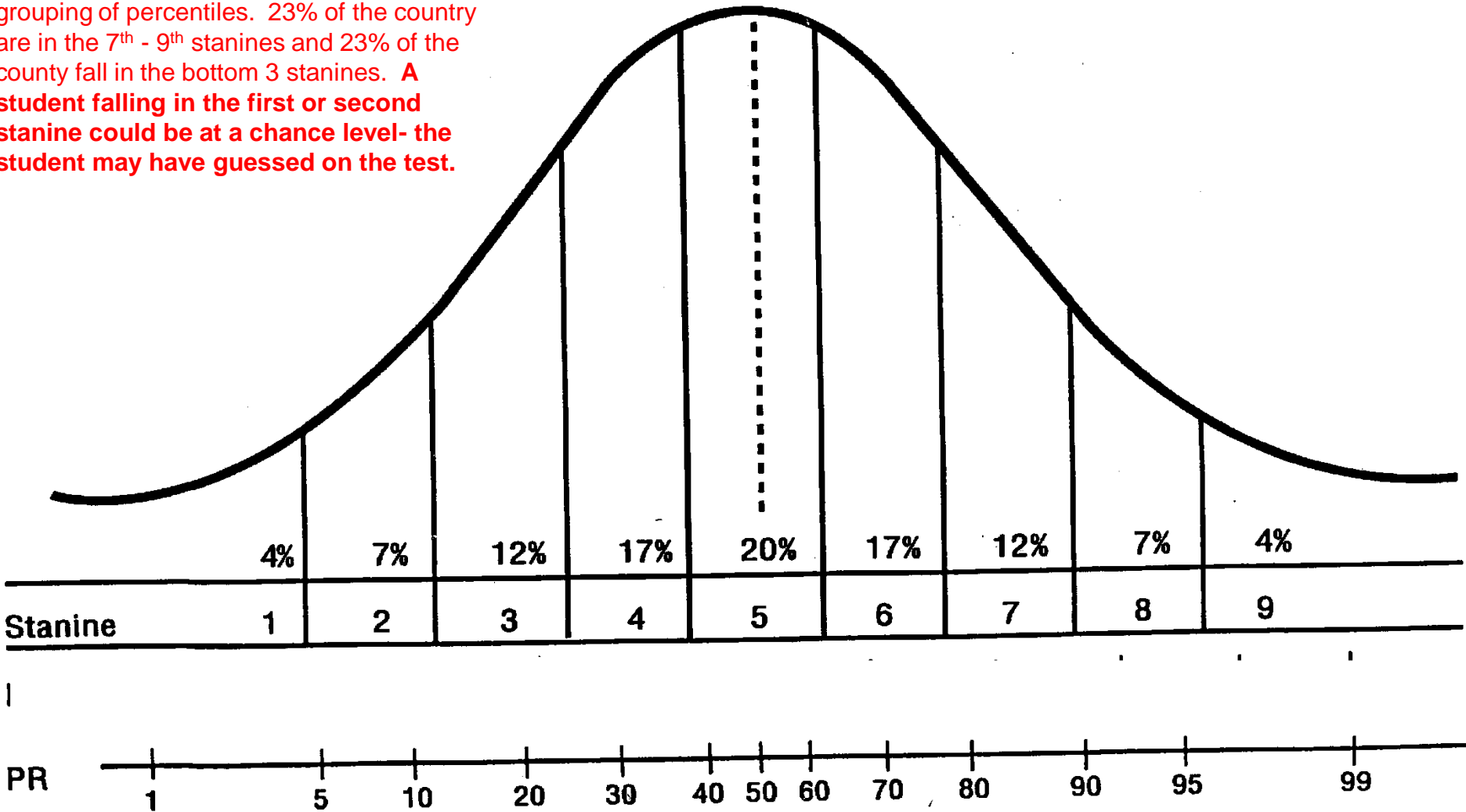
Is Waldo Taller or Heavier?

Attribute	Percentile
Height	90
Weight	20



Relationship of Stanines, Percentiles, and PRs

If you have a child at the 50th PR, that would mean that your child is average doing as well as 50% of his peers and 50% of his peers are doing better. **Stanines**...A stanine is a grouping of percentiles. 23% of the country are in the 7th - 9th stanines and 23% of the country fall in the bottom 3 stanines. **A student falling in the first or second stanine could be at a chance level- the student may have guessed on the test.**



What is the Diocesan Testing Program?

- Grades 3 - 8 administers The Iowa Assessments
- Grades 4 and 6 also administers the Cognitive Abilities Test

What Do I Need to Know About The Iowa Assessment.....

**The Iowa Assessment
Standards Reflect the
Latest National Standards in:**

**English Language Arts and
Mathematics**

Important Information for Students to know

- To be average a student needs to only correctly answer approximately 50% of the items. The other items are designed to see how far beyond his/her grade level a child might achieve.
- Items do not go from easy to hard – Item difficulty is mixed.

English Language Arts (ELA) Assesses:

- Reading
- Written Expression
- Conventions of Writing
- Vocabulary

Reading Assesses:

Students read several informational and literature based selections silently and answer questions.

Vocabulary

A pure measure of word knowledge

- Test of word knowledge
- Not a reading test – as no context is provided to give meaning
- Best predictor of achievement

25 To operate the machine
A oil
B run
C build
D repair

Written Expression

- Assesses the Editing and Proof-reading Strategies of the Writing Process
 - Select a better ending sentence
 - Revise a sentence

Conventions of Writing

Students must proof-read a sentence or paragraph and select the correct convention of writing for a given sentence.

- Punctuation - which line in a short paragraph has an error in punctuation
- Spelling – which word is misspelled in a list of 4 words
- Capitalization – line in a short paragraph has an error in capitalization

Math

Assess student's knowledge of:

- Geometry
- Measurement
- Fractions/ decimals
- Data interpretation
- Algebraic expressions
- Problem Solving
- Computation
 - Pure assessment of the ability to add, multiply, subtract and divide using whole and rational numbers
 - Items are intentionally not embedded in word problems
 - Speed and accuracy in computing
 - Students must have a strong working knowledge of their addition, subtraction and multiplication facts.