



Evidence-based tools and guidance
for delivering effective programs

- PLANNING & MANAGEMENT
- ACADEMICS & ENRICHMENT
- STAFFING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- SITE CLIMATE
- STUDENT RECRUITMENT & ATTENDANCE

summerlearningtoolkit.org

G GUIDANCE FOR TIP SHEET

USING DATA TO STRATEGICALLY GROUP STUDENTS

This document provides guidance on how to use the [Using Data to Strategically Group Students](#) tip sheet available in the Summer Learning Toolkit. You can also access the tip sheet in the [Academics and Enrichment](#) section of the Toolkit.

What is the *USING DATA TO STRATEGICALLY GROUP STUDENTS* tip sheet and how can you use it?

This tip sheet was developed by Bellwether Education Partners to help program and instructional leaders to differentiate instruction during large- and small-group activities. It provides a step-by-step process for collecting and analyzing student data and using it to group and regroup students with purpose.

Why are multiple grouping strategies important?

Research shows that small-group instruction is an effective way to provide explicit instruction and more practice for students who need it. **RAND** found that teachers reported large differences in knowledge and skills across students, even in programs targeting low-performing students. For that reason, differentiated materials and groupings are important to engage students who quickly

complete tasks at the same time others are struggling with a concept.

Small-group instruction has been shown to be particularly effective for students with reading difficulties. Beyond skill-level groupings, students enjoy working in a variety of grouping formats that reflect their knowledge, interests, and progress.

Who can benefit from this resource?

- District program leaders
- School-based program leaders
- Instructional leads and coaches
- Instructional staff

