

Cycle 1 ELA Competency: To Write Information-based Texts

Criteria	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Use Of Information and sequencing of writing.	Needs constant assistance to paraphrase information in a logical sequence.	Begins to experiment with paraphrasing with some assistance. Includes a limited number of facts.	Frequently paraphrases information. Begins to demonstrate a creative approach with gathered information.	Consistently uses accurate information independently. Demonstrates a creative approach with gathered information.
Sentence Structure	Rarely uses complete sentences. Writes words and incomplete sentences about a topic.	Experiments with complete sentences. Writes 1-2 sentences about a topic.	Frequently uses complete sentences. Writes several sentences about a topic.	Writes using complete sentences. Writes longer texts and uses paragraphs.
Punctuation	Rarely uses basic punctuation (periods and question marks) in writing.	Experiments with basic punctuation (periods and question marks) in writing.	Frequently uses appropriate basic punctuation. Experiencing with more complex punctuation (quotation marks, etc.)	Consistently uses appropriate and more complex punctuation.
Capitals	Prints with upper case only.	Experiments with capitals. Intermixes upper and lower case letters.	Frequently uses capital letters correctly (I, names, sentence beginnings, and some proper nouns)	Consistently uses capital letters appropriately for a variety of purposes.
Uses a Limited Range Of Spelling Strategies	Uses beginning and ending consonants to make words.	Uses inventive spelling. Spells words on the basis of sounds without regard for conventional spelling patterns.	Uses phonetic spelling. Spells simple words and many high frequency words correctly.	Spells most high frequency words correctly and moves towards conventional spelling.
Clarity Of Writing	Relies heavily on pictures to convey meaning. Pretends to read own writing.	Writes words to describe or support pictures. Begins to read own writing.	Writes sentences to convey meaning.	Writes pieces that self and others can read. Uses pictures as an addition to the story.
Reflects On Own Writing	Prompting and questioning required to begin to talk about own writing.	Begins to initiate talk about writing. Begins to reflect on favorite writing strategies.	Talks /reflects, focusing on their likes and favorite strategies.	Reflects and is beginning to set early writing goals.
Uses Of Signs, Symbols, and illustration.	Relies heavily on use of illustrations to convey meaning. Needs assistance to correlate information and words.	Begins to use information and illustration with assistance.	Frequently uses illustration to complement writing with little assistance.	Pictures and symbols integrated with print.