



Kindergarten Writing Rubric

Category	4 - Excellent	3 - Good	2 - Developing	1 - Emerging
Pencil Grip & Control	Holds pencil correctly and writes with strong control.	Holds pencil correctly; minor control issues.	Holds pencil inconsistently; struggles with control.	Needs help to hold and use a pencil correctly.
Letter Formation	Forms all uppercase and lowercase letters clearly and correctly.	Forms most letters clearly; few errors.	Forms some letters; inconsistent size or shape.	Attempts to form letters but mostly scribbles.
Spacing Between Words	Consistently spaces words correctly.	Spaces words with some minor inconsistencies.	Limited spacing; words often run together.	No spacing; letters and words are hard to separate.
Spelling	Spells sight words correctly and uses phonetic spelling for new words.	Spells most sight words correctly; few errors.	Spells some words correctly; relies on phonetic spelling.	Spelling is unclear; random letters or guesses.
R.A.C.E. Expectations	Fully applies R.A.C.E: Restates the question, answers clearly, cites evidence, and explains thoroughly.	Applies R.A.C.E: Restates the question, provides an answer, and attempts to cite and explain.	Uses R.A.C.E with limited explanation or citation; the response lacks clarity.	Does not follow the R.A.C.E. process; lacks restatement, citation, or explanation.
Sentence Writing	Writes simple sentences with correct capitalization, spacing, punctuation, and grammar.	Writes sentences with minor errors in capitals, punctuation, or grammar.	Writes partial sentences or strings of words with some errors.	Writes random letters or words; no sentence structure.



Category	4 - Excellent	3 - Good	2 - Developing	1 - Emerging
Paragraph Writing	Writes 2–3 sentences on a single topic with clear ideas and organization.	Writes 1–2 sentences on a topic with some clarity.	Writes incomplete sentences or unrelated ideas.	Does not yet attempt to write a paragraph.
Capitalization Rules	Consistently capitalizes the first word in sentences and proper nouns.	Capitalizes the first word in most sentences; occasional errors with proper nouns.	Attempts capitalization but inconsistent.	Rarely uses capital letters or does not attempt.
Punctuation Rules	Correctly uses periods, question marks, and exclamation marks.	Uses punctuation correctly most of the time.	Attempts punctuation but inconsistent or incorrect.	Does not yet use punctuation.
Basic Grammar	Uses correct grammar, such as subject-verb agreement and complete sentences.	Makes minor grammar mistakes but sentences are understandable.	Uses some correct grammar; incomplete sentences.	Grammar is unclear; sentences lack structure.
Drawing & Writing Connection	Draws detailed pictures that relate clearly to the writing.	Draws pictures that mostly connect to writing.	Draws pictures with limited connection to words.	Draws random marks; no connection to writing.
Effort and Focus	Stays focused and completes work independently.	Works with occasional reminders to stay on task.	Needs frequent guidance to complete writing tasks.	Requires constant support and encouragement.

Notes:

- Use this rubric to track progress across the year and adjust instruction as needed.
- Celebrate improvements in writing skills, no matter how small.