



BERRYESSA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
Expository Description Writing Rubric- 1st Grade

	ADVANCED-4	PROFICIENT-3	MAKING PROGRESS-2	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT-1
Writing Application • Genre Characteristics	• Describes a real object, person, place, or event in detail • Uses action verbs and adjectives; may use adverbs	• Writes brief expository descriptions of a real object, person, place, or event • Uses sensory details	• Writes about a familiar object, person, place, or event • May use sensory detail	• Does not address topic • No details
Writing Strategies • Organization • Focus • Penmanship	• Writes complex, coherent sentences that develop a central idea/topic sentence • Groups related ideas • Maintains a consistent focus • Handwriting is legible	• Writes clear, coherent sentences; may include a topic sentence • Selects a focus • Printing is legible and letters, words, and sentences are spaced appropriately	• Writes a phrase or sentence that addresses the topic • Inconsistent spacing and formation of upper/lower case letters	• Lacks focus • Writing is not legible
Writing Conventions • Sentence Structure • Punctuation • Capitalization • Spelling	• Writes complex, coherent sentences • Uses punctuation correctly • Capitalizes all proper nouns, words at the beginning of sentences, months, days of the week, and titles • Spells frequently used, irregular words correctly (<i>was, were, said, who, what, why</i>) • Spells basic short-vowel, long-vowel, r-controlled, and consonant-blend patterns correctly	• Writes complete, coherent sentences • Uses ending punctuation correctly • Capitalizes the first word of a sentence, names of people, and the pronoun <i>I</i> • Spells three- and four-letter short-vowel words and grade level sight words correctly	• Writes a phrase or incomplete sentence • Inconsistent use of ending punctuation • Inconsistent use of capitalization • Uses phonetic spelling (sound/symbol)	• No sentence structure evident • No evidence of directionality or spacing • No evidence of phonetic spelling (sound/symbol) relationships