First Grade Writing Rubric

*These rubrics are used when observing first grade students during writing conferences, or when evaluating writing samples. Select the descriptions that best fit the child at that point in time.

Content	Conventions
4 **Advanced** • I maintain focus in my writing. • I use some support (details, examples, descriptions). • I use purposeful ordering of sentences.	**4** **Advanced** • I spell many high frequency words correctly. • I use knowledge of common spelling patterns/rules to spell new words. • I use capital letters at the beginning of sentences and proper nouns. • I use ending marks correctly.
3 **Proficient** • I stay on topic when I write. • My writing includes multiple sentences. • My writing has a beginning, middle, and end.	**3** **Proficient** • I spell some high frequency words correctly. • I use knowledge of some word patterns to spell words correctly. • I use developmental spelling with unfamiliar words. • I use appropriate spacing. • I use many capital letters at the beginning of sentences and proper nouns. • I use many ending marks correctly.
2 **Basic** • I can write a complete thought or sentence.	**2** **Basic** • I write my name and favorite words. • I write common words based on letter/sound relationships. • I may confuse some letter sounds. • I combine upper and lowercase letters in my writing. • I write left to right and top to bottom. • I usually use appropriate spacing. • I experiment with punctuation and capitalization.
1 **Novice** • I use pictures and print to convey meaning. • I may add labels related to my topic.	**1** **Novice** • I copy names/words. • I represent whole words with one, two, or three letters. • I understand some sound/letter relationships.