

Scoring Guide K-2 Ideas

6 EXCEPTIONAL

- The main idea is clear and fresh; the topic is narrowed
- Supporting details enhance the idea or story line
- Pictures (if present) offer intriguing details or clarification
- Development is in depth, balanced and complete
- Focus is maintained throughout the writing

5 EXPERIENCED

- The main idea is clear; topic is manageable
- Supporting details help flesh out the idea or story line
- Pictures (if present) add detail to the idea or story line
- Development includes some specific, interesting detail
- Focus is generally maintained

4 CAPABLE

- The main idea, simple story or explanation is clear in the text
- Support is present and generally adds to the main idea or story line
- Pictures (if present) clearly connect with the main idea
- Development is general, broad strokes
- Focus wavers at times

3 DEVELOPING

- The main idea is stated in text, or easily inferred
- Support is present, but minimal—a few details
- Pictures (if present) offer detail not present in the text
- Development is sketchy (either very short or repetitive)
- Focus: a list of words about the topic, or a few related sentences

2 EMERGING

- The main idea can be inferred through words, labels, title, pictures, or symbols
- Support is present in a general way-words, pictures, symbols seem to stem from the central idea
- Pictures (if present) help to communicate the idea
- Development—not yet
- Focus—elements seem to relate

- Main idea is not yet clear (scribbles, random letters)
- Support—not yet
- Pictures (if present) not yet
- Development: not yet
- Focus: not yet



Scoring Guide K-2 Organization

6 EXCEPTIONAL

- The structure complements the purpose and content
- Picture elements (if present) show balance and planning
- Transitions are varied and smooth
- Sequencing is logical, arranged for the greatest impact
- An engaging lead and developed conclusion are present
- Format is clear, assists reader orientation

5 EXPERIENCED

- The structure leads the reader through the piece smoothly
- Pictures elements (if present) show thoughtful planning
- Transitions are varied
- Sequencing makes sense (steps in a process, chronology in a story)
- A strong lead and satisfying concluding sentence are present
- Format shows care in arrangement of elements on the page

4 CAPABLE

- A predictable structure is present and effective
- Picture elements (if present) work in a general way
- Transitions are present, but predictable (first, second, third, etc.)
- Sequencing may need more attention, but reader can follow
- Generic lead and conclusion are present (Once upon a time, The end).
- Format helps reader pick out important things

3 DEVELOPING

- Basic structure observable in the text and pictures
- Picture elements (if present) may appear crowded, out of scale, but the reader can grasp the general meaning
- Transitions are limited, repetitive or not present
- Introductory sentence works for the lead ending not present.
- Format is simple but clear

2 EMERGING

- Structure shows a beginning sense of where things go on the page
- Pictures (if present) show signs of order and balance
- Transitions: not yet
- Sequencing: not yet
- A label, title or a few words begin to introduce the topic—no ending
- Format shows awareness of left to right, top to bottom, picture separated from words and letters

- Structure: not yet (scattered, random letters, or none)
- Pictures (if present) are hard to decipher random scribbles, etc.
- Sequencing: not yet
- Beginning/ending: not yet
- Format clues: not yet



Scoring Guide K-2 Voice

6 EXCEPTIONAL

- ❖ Powerful, expressive voice is heard consistently throughout the piece
- Pictures (if present) contribute to the mood, atmosphere or point of view
- ★ Begs to be read aloud
- ❖ Unique, individual, committed to the topic
- ***** Engages the audience

5 EXPERIENCED

- ❖ Opinions, feelings are clearly expressed
- ❖ Pictures (if present) accentuate the voice expressed in the writing
- * Reads well aloud
- Clear impression of the person behind the words
- Speaks directly to the audience or sustains reader's interest

4 CAPABLE

- The writer makes feelings, opinion, viewpoint clear-or easy to infer
- Pictures (if present) support writer's feelings, mood, atmosphere
- **☆** Parts of the piece read well aloud
- ❖ Individual expression is present
- Audience awareness is present or implied

3 DEVELOPING

- A word or two reflects the writer's feeling (fun, like); exclamation point, capitals etc.
- Pictures show expression in faces and details
- ★ Audience awareness is present in a general way
- ★ A general impression of feeling, mood is evident
- ★ A general feeling is captured in words and/or pictures

2 EMERGING

- ❖ Not enough text is present to convey mood, feeling or action
- ❖ Pictures(if present) convey voice vaguely through color, action, expression
- ★ Audience awareness: not yet present or clear
- ★ Individual expression is hard to find
- ★ A feeling can be inferred from clues in the text and pictures

- As yet, no text is present to convey mood, feeling, or action
- ❖ Pictures (if present) are difficult to interpret
- * Audience awareness: not yet
- ★ Individual expression is reflected in markings, scribbles, floating letters, etc.
- ★ The reader is not sure what mood or feeling is intended



Scoring Guide K-2 Word Choice

6 EXCEPTIONAL

- Words alone convey a complete story, opinion or informational piece
- Word choice is thoughtful, striking or memorable
- Vocabulary shows refinement, search for precision
- Repetition rarely occurs

5 EXPERIENCED

- Words alone convey the message in several sentences
- Word choice contains moments of sparkle; everyday words used well
- The vocabulary shows accuracy and attempts to use new words
- Repetition occurs in a few places

4 CAPABLE

- The words convey a simple message, story line or informational piece
- Words are basic and used accurately
- Vocabulary is mostly routine, with a few exceptions
- Repetition is noticeable but does not impair the message

3 DEVELOPING

- Word groups, sentence parts convey the message with some help from pictures
- Word choice is limited but manages to convey the idea
- Vocabulary is limited to "known" or "safe" words
- Repetition of "safe" words and phrases

2 EMERGING

- A few words begin to emerge
- Word choice is difficult to decode—reader can't be sure
- Vocabulary relies on copied words from prompts, environmental words
- Repetition: may repeat letters, alphabet, name, etc.

- No words are present (imitative writing)
- Word choice: not present
- Vocabulary: not present
- Repetition: inconsistent letter shapes, imitative writing or none



Scoring Guide K-2 Sentence Fluency

6 EXCEPTIONAL

- Several sentences are present in the text with some variety in structure and length
- Sentence beginnings are varied
- Rhythm is fluid and pleasant to read aloud
- Connective words within sentences add to fluency

5 EXPERIENCED

- Several sentences are present-more than one sentence pattern
- Sentence beginnings have some variety
- Rhythm is more fluid than mechanical easy to read aloud
- Connective words do not interfere with the fluency

4 CAPABLE

- Reliance on simple sentence patterns earmarks the writing
- Sentences do not *all* begin the same way
- Rhythm is more mechanical than fluid
- Some overuse of connective words (and, and then, then I, so) is present, but does not dominate

3 DEVELOPING

- Most of a sentence is present in the text (Like tigres becuz ther riree Fas)
- Sentences begin the same way
- Rhythm is choppy and repetitive
- Connective words tack sentence parts together

2 EMERGING

- Part of a sentence may be present (Cus dogo bit)
- Words are limited and/or repetitive
- Rhythm: not present
- Connective words may appear in sentence parts

- No sentences or sentence parts are present in the text
- The marks, lines or scribbles show beginning of word "sense"
- Words stand alone
- Connectives: not present



Scoring Guide K-2 Conventions

6 EXCEPTIONAL

- Capitalization is accurate for sentence beginnings, proper names, titles
- End punctuation, commas in series, other varied uses for stylistic effect
- Spelling: grade level words and "hard" words spelled phonetically, if not accurately
- Grammar and usage: accurate
- Paragraphing: consistent indentation for paragraphs

5 EXPERIENCED

- Capitalization: capitals for sentence beginnings, proper names, titles usually correct
- Punctuation: end punctuation usually correct—some varied uses present
- Spelling: usually accurate for grade level words
- Grammar and usage: usually accurate
- Paragraphing: first line indented

4 CAPABLE

- Capitalization: capitals for sentence beginnings, proper names, titles (if applicable) is present
- Punctuation: end punctuation is present
- Spelling: high use grade level words mostly correct; phonetic spelling easy to decode
- Grammar and usage: subject/verb agreement, tense, still spotty
- Paragraphing: spotty, or not present

3 DEVELOPING

- Capitalization: beginning sentence, proper names, titles (if applicable) still inconsistent
- Punctuation: period or other punctuation is present somewhere
- Spelling: phonetic spelling decodable; accurate spelling of some words
- Grammar and usage: a grammatical construction is present, but missing parts
- Paragraphing: not present

2 EMERGING

- Capitalization: random use of upper and lower case letters
- Punctuation: none or random
- Spelling: Phonetic, some decodable, a few simple words
- Grammar and usage: a noun and a verb are present
- Paragraphing: not present

- Capitalization: print sense still emerging
- Punctuation: not present
- Spelling: pre-phonetic or not present
- Grammar and usage: not present
- Paragraphing: not present