

Kindergarten vs. First Grade

Content

The writer uses pictures, labels and words to tell stories and tell the reader about the subject.	The writer names their subject and uses pictures, labels and words to teach the reader or tell a story.
The writer draws and writes some important things about the subject.	The writer puts facts in their writing to teach about the subject or tell a story.
The writer has a page for the beginning, a page for the middle and a page for the end of their writing.	The writer has a beginning, middle and ending that stretches across 3 or more pages.
The writer's story includes who was there, what they did and how the character felt.	The writer puts the pictures from their mind onto the page. The writer includes details in the pictures and the words.

Spelling and Punctuation

The writer puts spaces between words most of the time with occasional support from the teacher.	The writer puts spaces between words consistently and independently.
The writer spells most word wall words correctly.	The writer consistently spells word wall words correctly.
The writer uses inventive spelling when necessary. The writer writes the beginning, middle and ending sounds in words using mostly consonants and some of the correct vowels.	The writer uses inventive spelling when necessary. The writer writes the beginning, middle and ending sounds in words using consonants and vowels.
The writer begins to use upper and lowercase letters.	The writer uses appropriate capital and lowercase letters in their writing.
The writer begins to use ending punctuation.	The writer uses ending punctuation consistently.