

BERRYESSA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT Descriptive Writing Rubric- 3rd Grade

	ADVANCED-4	PROFICIENT-3	MAKING PROGRESS-2	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT-1
 Writing Application Genre Characteristics 	 Clearly describes people, places, things or experiences Uses a variety of interesting adjectives that give a vivid image of the person/place/thing (e.g. similes, metaphors) Uses precise active verbs 	 Describes people, places, things, or experiences Uses simple, sensory adjectives to provide an image of the person/place/thing Uses active verbs 	 Minimally describes people, places, things, or experiences Uses simple adjectives Limited use of active verbs 	 Lacks a description of people, places, things, or experiences Includes a few or no adjectives Uses no active verbs
Writing Strategies • Organization • Focus (Topic) • Penmanship	 Clearly addresses all parts of the writing task Includes a clearly presented central idea with relevant facts, details, and/or explanations Maintains a consistent point of view, focus, and organizational structure 	 Addresses all parts of the writing task Presents a central idea with mostly relevant facts, details, and/or explanations Maintains a mostly consistent point of view, focus, and organizational structure 	 Addresses some parts of the writing task Suggests a central idea with limited facts, details, and/or explanations Maintains an inconsistent point of view, focus, and/or organizational structure 	 Off topic or fails to address the writing task Lacks a central idea but may contain marginally related facts, details, and/or explanations
Written Conventions Sentence Structure Grammar Punctuation Capitalization Spelling 	 Includes a variety of sentence types Contains a few or no errors in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling). These errors do not interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing. 	 Includes a variety of sentence types Contains some errors in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling). These errors do not interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing. 	 Includes little variety of sentence types Contains several errors in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling). These errors may interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing. 	 Lacks variety of sentence types Contains serious errors in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling). These errors interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing.