

Kid Friendly Expository Rubric

	Score 4	Score 3	Score 2	Score 1
Organization	The essay is written in expository form and responds to the prompt in a meaningful way. The essay is organized with a clear central idea. Supporting ideas are strongly related to the central idea and focused on the topic. Meaningful transitions and sentence-to-sentence connections show how the ideas are connected. The reader can easily follow the writer's thinking.	The essay is written in expository form and responds to the prompt in a way that makes sense. The essay is organized with a clear central idea. Most supporting ideas are related to the central idea, although there may be some problems with focus. Most transitions and sentence-to-sentence connections help to show how the ideas are connected. The reader can follow the flow of the essay.	The writer tries to write in expository form, but the essay may not be clear because the ideas are not organized. The central idea is difficult to understand. Most supporting ideas are related to the topic of the prompt, but may not be connected to the central idea which causes the writing to lose focus. Sometimes the writer's ideas are confusing or are repeated. The ideas are not well connected, and it is difficult to follow the writer's thinking.	The essay is not written in expository form or does not respond to the prompt. The writing does not have a central idea, or the central idea is confusing. Most ideas are weak or not related to the prompt, and the essay loses focus. The writer's ideas are confusing or repeated, and are not connected. The essay is hard to understand.
Development of Ideas	The writer uses specific details and examples to express exactly what he/she wants to say. The essay is thoughtful and holds the reader's interest. The writer uses his/her own experiences and ways of thinking to connect the ideas in interesting ways.	The writer uses specific details and examples to make the essay interesting. The essay shows some thoughtfulness because the writer is expressing his/her own original ideas and not following a particular format for the writing.	The writer uses details and examples that are not always complete or well-connected to the other ideas. The essay is not thoughtful because the writer is following a format, rather than expressing his/her own ideas.	The writer uses details and examples that are not explained or are not connected to the other ideas. The essay is confusing or the ideas are weakly linked to the prompt.
Conventions	The writer uses words that express exactly what he/she means. All sentences have a purpose, and the writer uses different types of sentences to make the writing strong. The writer has good control of sentence boundaries, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and grammar.	The writer uses words to express his/her ideas in a clear way. The writer uses some different types of sentences and has fairly good control of sentence boundaries, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and grammar. There may be some errors, but they do not interrupt the meaning of the essay.	The writer uses words that are either not specific or not correct and make the writing confusing. Sentences are awkward, and the writer has some trouble with sentence boundaries, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and grammar. Some errors are distracting and take away from the meaning of the essay.	The writer uses words that limit his/her ability to write an effective essay. Sentences are simple or awkward and take away from the ideas of the essay. The writer has little or no control of sentence boundaries, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and grammar. Serious errors make the essay difficult to understand.