Winter, spring, summer or fall. Choose one of the seasons of the year and tell why it is your favorite season.

My favorite season is fall. You can trick-or-treat on Halloween. I was the Grim Reaper last year. When it is fall you can rake the leaves and then jump in them! Sometimes my brother makes me eat the leaves. Fall is the best!
Sample F

My favorite season is fall. You can trick-or-treat on Halloween. I was the Grim Reaper last year. When it is fall you can rake the leaves and then jump in them! Sometimes my brother makes me eat the leaves. Fall is the best!
### Score = 2/3 (Basic)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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#### MPS Writing Rubric – Formative

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#### Strengths:
- Addresses the prompt
- Some evidence of voice

#### Weaknesses:
- Ideas underdeveloped
- Sentence fluency

#### Focus of Instruction:
- Development of ideas through use of graphic organizer
- Adding details & descriptive words to sentences

#### Student Comments:
You had a good, clear beginning. I want to know more about Halloween. Could you tell me everything you saw? Could you tell me everything you did? I want to know more about playing in the leaves. What did the leaves look and smell like? Did you taste the leaves?

#### Teacher Comments:
A graphic organizer may help this student elaborate on his ideas. One way to add describing words is to find all the nouns and verbs and add adjectives and adverbs to them. Ask the student during prewriting to remember the five senses and the 5 W’s: who, what, when, where, and why.
Samples of Student Work, K5-Grade 3

Samples of 2nd Grade Writing Pieces

Sample G

Winter, spring, summer or fall. Choose one of the seasons of the year and tell why it is your favorite season.

I like the Summer. You can go to the park and get ice cream. That is so delicious. My friend Ruby and I ride bikes, and it is super fun. Sometimes I have a sleep over. At my sleep over we watch movies and listen to music. When it is hot, we have a big cook out. The food is good. I the Summer we go to my dad’s cottage. We go on the boat we ride on the tube. It is so fun. Summer is awesome.
Sample G

I like the Summer. you can go to the park and get ice cream. That is so delicious my friend Ruby and I ride bikes, and it is Super fun Sometimes I have a Sleep over. At my Sleep over we watch movies and listen to music When it is hot, We have a big cook out. The food is good. I the Summer We go to my dad’s cottage. We go on the boat We ride on the tube. It is so fun Summer is awesome
Score = 2/3 (Basic)

### Sample G

**Winter, spring, summer or fall. Choose one of the seasons of the year and tell why it is your favorite season.**

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### Strengths:
- Addresses the prompt
- Some evidence of voice
- Adequate word choice

### Weaknesses:
- Underdevelopment of ideas
- Sentence fluency

### Focus of Instruction:
- Have child develop one or two of the ideas mentioned in the story and “zoom-in” on adding details
- Variety of sentences and sentence beginnings

### Student Comments:
Good job of addressing the prompt and introducing it to your reader.
I want to know more about what you do at the park.
What did you see and hear at the park? What kind of ice cream did you eat? How were you able to buy the ice cream? What does your bike look like? Is it fast? Is it old or is it new?
What kind of music and movies do you like to watch? What do you eat at the cookout? Who makes the food? What does the area around the cottage look like? What things can you hear or smell?

### Teacher Comments:
A graphic organizer may help this student elaborate on each idea.
During prewriting remind the student to think about the five senses and the 5 W’s: who, what, when, where and why.
This student could try unscrambling mixed-up sentences as a skill practice to build sentence fluency.
Winter, spring, summer or fall. Choose one of the seasons of the year and tell why it is your favorite season.

I like Winter. In Winter I always have snowball wars. Snowball wars are so fun. I always win. I like the times when I get to go ice fishing with Mark. Ice fishing is really fun. After I’m done, I go home and drink hot cocoa. When I’m done I go outside and dig a snow tunnel. Winter is very fun. I like it.
Sample H

I like Winter. In Winter I always have snowball wars. Snowball wars are so fun. I always win. I like the times when I get to go ice fishing with Mark. Ice fishing is really fun. After I’m done, I go home and drink hot cocoa. When I’m done I go outside and dig a snow tunnel. Winter is very fun. I like it.
Score 3 (Proficient)

**Sample H**

**Winter, spring, summer or fall. Choose one of the seasons of the year and tell why it is your favorite season.**

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**Strengths:**
- Evidence of voice
- Adequate word choice
- Ideas sufficiently developed

**Weaknesses:**
- Sentence fluency

**Focus of Instruction:**
- Sentence beginnings/combining sentences

**Student Comments:**
I liked your introductory and concluding sentences. Could you tell me what the air feels like during a snowball war? What do you smell? How do you feel when you are drinking the hot chocolate? Does it warm you up or make you feel happy? I want to know more about ice fishing. What happens during ice fishing? Do you have to wait a long time? Did you catch anything?

**Teacher Comments:**
This student may benefit from practice combining sentences. During prewriting it may be helpful to remind the students to remember their senses when describing events as well as the 5 W’s: who, what, when, where and why. Word choice activities using adjectives and adverbs would be helpful.
Samples of 2nd Grade Writing Pieces

Sample I

Winter, spring, summer or fall. Choose one of the seasons of the year and tell why it is your favorite season.

Spring Things

Spring is my favorite season. You may ask why. My birthday is in the spring and spring is almost here. Soon I am going to have creamy chocolate cake with fudge frosting because it is the best kind of cake. I enjoy receiving presents and playing with my new things. It’s almost my birthday, I can’t stand it until it’s here! When spring comes and the weather starts to get warmer me and my brothers clash lightsabers. Clashing lightsabers is one of my favorite warm weather activities. I beat my brothers and they beat me. I also go swimming at my Grandmother’s lake/pond. The water is cool and refreshing for my cousins and me. I am able to play my favorite sports in the spring. I especially like playing football and baseball in our backyard. Because of all fun warm weather activities I like to do, I like spring best!
Sample I

Spring Things

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brothers clash lightsabers. Clashing lightsabers is one of my favorite warm weather activities. I beat my brothers and they beat me. I also go swimming at my Grandmother’s lake/pond. The water is cool and refreshing for my cousins and me. I am able to play my favorite sports in the spring. I especially like playing football and baseball in our backyard. Because of all fun warm weather activities I like to do, I like spring best!
Score = 3 (Proficient)

### Sample I

**Winter, spring, summer or fall. Choose one of the seasons of the year and tell why it is your favorite season.**

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**Student Comments:**
You did an awesome job describing the events. Could you tell me a little more about what kind of new things you received for your birthday? Could you describe the football and baseball games in a little more detail?

**Teacher Comments:**
Student needs practice in sentence fluency activities. Graphic organizers might help the student expand on each event. Brainstorming adjective and adverbs to add to the description may be helpful.

### Strengths:
- Ideas developed
- Strong word choice
- Evidence of voice
- Organization

### Weaknesses:
- Sentence fluency

### Focus of Instruction:
Sentence structure
Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle, and end of your day.

Do you want to know what a normal day is like at Longfellow Elementary School is like? Let me tell you the exciting events at the beginning, middle, and the end of the day. The first thing to do in the morning is have D.E.A.R. Time, spelling, and group research agent In the middle of the day with have recesses, physical education, and math. After everything, we have to do science, casting, and writing our research notes. Then people great things to do in Longfellow School.

This is how I start the morning of my day. I have fun starting my day when coming school. When you are there in the morning, I only read Chapter books for hours. The next thing is spelling, in spelling we have to spell a lot of things about upcoming words.

In the morning, I also do group research. The last thing we do is group research read. There are many things about a normal cause some are in chapter and some work with their skin side. I hope you see my first writing every day. In the middle of my day do exciting things. There are a lot of things that I do in the middle of the day.

The first thing is finding good interesting group research book.
The Hundred Dresses. Tom and his mother were moving north by other kids. The secondary reason for the middle of today is lunch.

Lunch is the best meal there is. They are yummy. By my tummy, the last thing on my mind of the day was we narrated Corey

Subtract and divide. We are fighting in gym. Remember not to wear my day.

The very thing one would need to have fun. After school is when I feel comfortable. It was exciting things. The second thing I think of is we have to do lots of things. The very last thing I think of is not homework. We wrote our work in our own neat handwriting.

Now you know how normal days begin. Elementary is like in third grade. It is lots of fun in my school. This is going to be a great school year.
Samples of Student Work, K5-Grade 3

Sample A

Do you want to know what a normal day is like at Longfellow Elementary school is like? Let me tell you the exciting assignments in the beginning, middle, and the end of the day.

The first thing I do in the beginning of the day is have D.E.A.R. time, spelling and animal research report. In the middle of the day we have lunch recess, reading group and math. At the end of the day we have to do science, cursive, and write in our assignment note book. Those are the great things at Longfellow School.

This is how I start the beginning of my day.

I have fun starting my day when I come to school. We have dear time. in Dear time I only read chapter books for hours. The next thing is spelling. In spelling we have to read plenty of things about spelling words. it helps me learn how to read. The last thing about the beginning of my day is animal research report. There are terrific things about a animal cause some are indangerd and
people hunt for their skin and I hope you read my first writing report.

In the middle of my day do exciting things. These are a few of the things that I do in the middle of the day the first thing is reading group. in reading group we are reading a book The hundred dresses. It’s sad to me because she gets picked on by other kids. The second thing we do in the middle of the day is have lunch recess. At lunch is the best meal is the hot pockets. They are yummy to my tummy. the last thing about my middle of my day is math we borrow, carry sudtact and divine. we are the class in division. Read on about the end of my day.

The very thing at the end at the end of the day is we get to have fun. At the end of the day the first thing we do is science. In science we do exiting things. The second things cursive we have to do lots I think its fun. The very last thing was assinment notbooks. We write our homework in our assinment notebook.
Now you know how a normal day at Longfellow Elementary is like in third grade. It’s lots of fun in my school this is why I love Longfellow school.
Score = 2+ (Basic)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sample A</th>
<th>Strengths:</th>
<th>Weaknesses:</th>
<th>Focus of Instruction:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle and end of your day.</strong></td>
<td>Introduction, body, and conclusion evident</td>
<td>Inconsistent sentence sense</td>
<td>Writing sentences that have both a subject and a predicate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MPS Writing Rubric – Formative</strong></td>
<td>Main idea is related and clearly communicated</td>
<td>Occasional inappropriate or incorrect language usage</td>
<td>Adding voice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Ideas are organized and there is evident of development</td>
<td>Inconsistent use of capitalization and spelling</td>
<td>Using a dictionary to correct spelling errors</td>
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<tr>
<td>+</td>
<td>Evidence of author’s response to the writing task (voice)</td>
<td>Little personal relationship to the writing task</td>
<td>Review of capitalization rules</td>
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**Student Comments:**
You did a good job of describing your day from beginning to end in an organized way.
I kept wanting to know more about things that happened during your day. For instance, why do you like D.E.A.R. time? What are you reading? What is exciting that you do in math?

**Teacher Comments:**
This writer could continue to work on expanding ideas by adding details, perhaps an outline that identifies the main activities with details. Complete sentences and combining sentences should also be a target.
Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle, and end of your day.

Do you want to know what we do in 3rd Grade? In the beginning of the day we do Dear, spelling, and research. In the middle of the day we do reading groups, get in line for recess, and card stories. The end of the day we do D.O.L., cursive and science. This is what we do every day in school.

In the beginning of the day we have Dear Time, research, and spelling to do. The beginning we have Dear Time. It's when we read in our brains and everyone reads quiet. Next we finish spelling. In spelling we have the alphabet on Monday, ABC order for Tuesday. Definitions for Wednesday's Crossword for Thursday. The final thing we need to do is research reports. In research we write about our animal. My animal is Hyena.

In the middle of the day we do these things, card stories, reading groups,
And getting in line for recess, cards and stories are the greatest work. They are colorful, aqua, blue, brown, lime, and purple.

Next we have reading groups. In reading groups we read and answer questions. Finally, we have to get in line for recess. We have to get in a straight line before we get outside.

It is fun in the end of the day. We do these things. First we have do in D.O.I we correct words that are wrong. Next, we have science. In science we do experiments in our classroom. The final thing is cursive. In cursive we have to write nice things. We are done with our school day. Now you know what the things I do in the beginning, middle, and end. This is the greatest school ever.
Do you want to know what we do in 3 grade? In the beginning of the day we do Dear, spelling and research reports. In the middle of the day we do reading groups, get in line for recess and card stories. The end of the day we do D.O.L., cursive and science this what we do every day in school.

In the beginning of the day we have Dear time, research reports, and spelling todo. The beginning we have D.e.a.r. time its when we read in our brains, and everybody reads quiet. Next, we finish spelling. In spelling we have 5x each for monday ABC order for tuesday Definitions for wednesday crossword for Thursday. The final thing we need to do is research reports. In research we write about our animal. My animal is Hyena.
In the middle of the day we do these things, card stories, Reading groups, And get in line for recess. Card stories are the greatest work. They are 5 colors Aqua, blue, Brown, lime and Purple. Next we have Reading groups. In Reading groups we Read and answer questions. final, we have to get in a line for recess. We have to get in a straight line before we get outside.

It is fun in the end of the day we do these things. First we have D.O.I. In D.O.I we correct words that are wrong. Next, we have science. In science we do expiriments in our classroom. The finaly, thing is cursive. In cursive we have to write nice than ever.

We are done with our school day. Now you know what the things I do in the begining, middle and end. This is the greatest school ever
Score = 2 (Basic)

**Sample B**

Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle and end of your day.

**MPS Writing Rubric – Formative**

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**Strengths:**
- Introduction, body and conclusion evident
- Main idea is restated and clearly communicated
- Spelling

**Weaknesses:**
- Inconsistent sentence sense
- Little personal relationship to the writing task
- Little elaboration – ideas are presented as a list
- Some sentence errors - fragments

**Focus of Instruction:**
- Writing sentences that have both a subject and a predicate
- Adding voice
- Review of keeping paper in first or third person (not both)
- Improving handwriting skills
- Using a thesaurus or other resources to make better word choices (“juicy words”)

**Student Comments:**
Choose one part of each part of your school day that is special and focus on that. I would like to know specific “treasure” details about each part rather than a list of things (trash details). This would also add voice to your writing if you showed how you felt.

How could you add exciting words to your writing?
What kind of experiments do you do in science?
What are you learning about?

**Teacher Comments:**
- A mini-lesson on important details versus insignificant or filler details
- Complete sentences and combining sentences should also be a target
Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle, and end of your day.

In room 2A is like a normal school day at school. We do work like kids at school do. I’m going to tell you what room 2A does every day. In the beginning of the day I have dear reading, animal report, and spelling. In the middle of the day I have specials, card stories, and lunch. My favorite time of school is in the end of the day. My class has math, cursive, and writing assignment then we go home. I think this is fun. Read on to find out more of what I do in school.

These are the things that we do in the morning. Dear time is were read books in the morning and we have to be quiet. I like the book of Judy Blume, I’ve read Super Fudge and I’m going to read The Tales of the Fourth Grade Nothing. Next, we do our animal reports I’m researching a flamingo. I picked a flamingo because some are pink and orange, Finally, I do my spelling on Thursday, we have to across word puzzle and sentences. I like Monday because we do 5 each handbook pages.

This is what I do in my class in the middle of the day. The first thing that I do in the middle of the day is recess. I like gym because I can run there and I like running. Then my class does card stories. I like reading about people’s lives.
Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle, and end of your day.

There is SRA Power Builder sathan when you done with SRA they're going to aqua man. Then we have lunch it's my favorite time. My favorite time. My favorite food is chic kitchen.

These are the things I do in class in my class. In class I start on math. I understand how to do long division now. The next thing I do in class is cursive. Cursive is fun to me. I like writing in cursive because I'll be really in fourth grade. The last thing is write in my assignments into my beinberto tell my what to do for homework. The end of the day is my favorite time.

After you have read about what I did in school doesn't in feel like you want to come to this school? Some of things I like best about our day are math, reading groups, and gym. Come and visit the best school in Milwaukee to see if your self!
Sample C

In room 22 is like a normal school day at school we do work like kids at school do. I'm going to tell you to you what room 22 does everyday. in the beginning of the day I have Dear reading, animal report and spelling. In the middle of the day I have specials, card stories, and lunch my favorite time of school. In the end of the day my class has math, cursive and writing Assignment then we go home. I think this is fun. Read on to find out more of what I do in school.

These are the things that we do in the morning. Dear time is we read books in the morning and we have to be quiet. I like the book of Judy Blume. I've read SuperFudge and I'm going to read The Tales of the Fourth Grade Nothing. Next, we do our animal reports I'm researching a flamingo. I picked a flamingo because some are pink and orange. Finally I do my spelling on Thursday we have to across word puzzle and
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This is what I do in my class in the middle of the day. The first thing that I do in the middle of the day is speails. I like gym because I can run there and I like run alot. Then my class does card stories. I like reading about peoples lifes. There is SRA Power Builders athan when your done with SRA then you go to oqawa. then we have lunch it's my favorite time. My favorite time. My favorite food is chikenugets.

These are the things I do in class in my class. In class I starton math. I understand how to do long division now. The next thing I do in class is cursive. Cursive is fun to me. I like writing in cursive because I’ll be ready in fourth grade. The last thing is write in my Assignments into my beinber to tell
my what to do for homework. The end of the day is my favorite time.

After you have read about what I did in school doesn't in feel like you want to come to this school? Some of things I like best about our day are math, reading groups, and gym. come and vist the best school in Milwaukee to see for your self!
Kindergarten through 3rd Grade Writing Samples

Score = 2 (Basic)

Sample C
Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle and end of your day.

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Strengths:
Author’s voice is evident
Spelling
Ideas are organized into paragraphs

Weaknesses:
Inconsistent sentence sense – lots of run-ons
Main idea is vaguely communicated

Focus of Instruction:
Restating the prompt in the introduction
Writing sentences that have a subject and a predicate
Review of keeping paper in first or third person (not both)
Using a thesaurus or other resources to make better word choices (“juicy words”)

Student Comments:
Look through a pair of binoculars and tell me more important details on what you do during the school day. You have a very general list, but I don’t know how you feel about these things (details). How do the chicken nuggets taste? What else do you do in gym? I like your ending sentence. Could you add an exciting lead to make the audience interested in your writing? How could you add more voice throughout the piece?

Teacher Comments:
Model appropriate spacing through literature, student samples and teacher samples.
Model and guide engaging leads to attract the reader from the beginning.
Elaborate on the student’s ideas – the student is scraping the surface but not supplying interesting ideas. Expand on word choice which would make the ideas more interesting.
Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle, and end of your day.

I do you know what I do in school everyday at long Elementary school. Well in the beginning of the day I do homework, announcements, and research. In the middle of the day I do read camps, writing, and listening activities. In the end of the day I do research and math and science. These are all the things I do at school everyday.

In the beginning of the day these are the three things I do. We read lots of books in the classroom. Next we listen to the announcements on the speaker and tell us that break time is over. Last we do research reports. Reports are fun to do everyday now and then. We get a long piece of paper that we have to fill out and we do all of it.

The next thing I am going to do is in the middle of the day. I will do my second story. It is like a story with a piece of paper and you have to read the story. The second thing I will do...
At the end of the day, we do wonderful things. I like 3rd grade best. My favorite thing to do is in the whole world. The next funniest thing is fun. I am on the letter L. But not least we do assignments. Assignments are fun to do. You get to write them in a book that is called assignment note book.

These are all the things I do in school everyday. All these things are fun, we have a wonder of a time.
Do you know what I do in school everyday at Long Fellow Elementary School. Well in the beginning of the day I do dear time, anouncements, and research repors. In the middle of the day I do card storys, reading groups, and lunch and recess. In the end of the day I do assignments, math and cursive. Those are at the things I do at school everyday.

In the beginning of the day these are the three things I do. We read lots of books in the class room. Next Mr. Smith goes on the announeements on the speaker and tell us that dear time is over. Last we do research reports. Reports are fun to do everyday now and than. We get a long pece of paper that we have to fill out and we do all of it.

The next thing I am going to do is in the mibble of the day. I will do my cord story. If is like a story with a peas of paper and you have to read the story. The second thing I will
dois go to reading group. Reading group is when you read books and answer questions. The third thing that I want to do is lunch and recess. We go outside and play and get in line to eat lunch.

At the end of the day we do wonderful thing. I like to do Math. Math is my favorite thing to do in the whole world. The next thing is cursive. Cursive is fun we are on the letter h in cursive. last but not least we do assignments. assignments are fun to do. You get to write them in a book that is called assignments note books.

Those are all the things I do in school everyday. All those things are fun. We have a fun day at school too.
Score = 2 (Basic)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample D</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle and end of your day.</strong></td>
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</table>

### MPS Writing Rubric – Formative

<table>
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</tr>
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<td>+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Strengths:**
- Introduction, body and conclusion evident
- Main idea is communicated
- Ideas are organized into paragraphs
- Adequate sentence sense

**Weaknesses:**
- Little personal relationship to the writing task
- Little elaboration – ideas are presented as a list
- Few spelling errors

**Focus of Instruction:**
- Adding voice
- Using a dictionary to correct spelling errors
- Review of keeping paper in first or third person (not both)
- Keeping the paper in one tense
- Using a thesaurus or other resources to make better word choice (“juicy word”)

**Student Comments:**
After reading your story I would really like to know more about what you wrote. What kind of research report are you doing? What kind of stories do you read? Why is math your favorite thing in the whole word to do? Tell me more about what is special and unique only to you.

I would like you to reread your story. There are some places your spelling is very good and other places you could check your spelling. Use the word wall, homophone list and other words in your story to make sure all words are spelled correctly.

**Teacher Comments:**
The first student comment would apply to adding details to the writing and adding voice. Focusing on important parts of the student’s day will improve these two areas.

As the student has control over his/her writing, using stronger words would improve the pieces (words that describe, new words, words that paint a picture in the reader’s mind). Work on leads and endings to add interest and voice.
Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle, and end of your day.

Do you want to know what we do at our school? Will I tell you it? At the beginning of the day we had breakfast. I like when we hang our coat, put down our chair and D.E.A.R. Read time. In the middle of the day we can play get reading, and then we go to lunch. At the end of the day we do math, then we write our assignment, and we put our coat on our chair. We begin our fun day at one o'clock. In the beginning of the day I really like putting our coat on. The first thing we do is count how much money we have for D.E.A.R. The last thing we do in the day is

195
At the middle of the day we have fun. The first thing in the middle of the day is our story. I love cards and games. We read everyday it's fun. Next we get reading homework to go home. The last thing we do in the middle of the day is go eat lunch so we can think better.

This is what we do at the end of the day at 3:00 pm. Follow we do math and it is the best subject we have. We have hard math work we have timetables. Next we write our assignment in to know what we have for homework.

Finally we put up our chair to clean the room.

Now you know how much fun we have in the beginning of the day.
Sample E-3

the middle of the day, and in the end of the day. This is what we do at Longfellow in 3rd grade every day. You would love to go to Longfellow.
Sample E

Do you want to know what we do at Longfellow school? Will I tell you! In the beginning of the day we do a lot of fun stuff like we hang up our coat, put down chair and D.E.A.R. reading time. In the middle of the day we do card story, get reading homework, and we go to lunch. and in the end of the day we do math then we write our assignment in, and we put up our chair.

We begin our fun day at Longfellow with the beginning of the day. I really like putting up our coat. that the first thing we do. the next thing we do is put down our chair for D.E.A.R. The last thing we do in the beginning of the day is D.E.A.R. we read in D.E.A.R. it’s fun.

At the middle of the day we have fun. The first thing on the middle of the day is card story i love card
story because we read every day it’s fun. Next we get reading homework to do at home. The last thing we do in the middle of the day is go eat lunch so we can think better.

This is what we do at the end of the day at Longfellow. We do math. It is the best subject we have. We have hard math work we have time tables. Next we write our assignment in to know what we have for homework. Finally we put up our chair to clean the room.

Now you know how much fun we have in the beginning of the day, in the middle of the day, and in the end of the day. This what we do at Longfellow in 3rd grade everyday. You would love to go to Longfellow.
Sample E

Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle and end of your day.

MPS Writing Rubric – Formative

Yes

+ Main Idea Communicated
+ Ideas sufficiently organized & developed
Evidence of author’s response to the writing task (voice)
+ Appropriate word choice & usage
Adequate sentence sense & minimal sentence errors
Occasional errors in capitalization, punctuation and spelling do not impair comprehension

Not Yet

Strengths:
Main idea is clearly communicated
Good use of transitions between and within paragraphs
Introduction, body and conclusion evident

Weaknesses:
Inconsistent sentence sense
Little personal relationship to the writing task
Little elaboration – ideas are presented as a list
Some sentence errors - fragments

Focus of Instruction:
Adding voice
Using a dictionary to correct spelling errors
Using a thesaurus or other resources to make better word choice (“juicy word”)
Review of keeping paper in first or third person (not both)

Student Comments:
Can you tell me why you like to hang up your coat? Is it noisy when the entire class is putting their chairs up at the end of the day? What specific jobs do you do at the end of the day? Let’s circle the word fu in your writing. Can you think of other words to use to describe how you feel? Where else could you look to find other words?

Teacher Comments:
Work on turning “telling statements” into “showing statements” (more focused, interesting and detailed). Work on writing that is meaningful, not just a list, so writing is personalized (voice). Emphasize rereading his/her work several times aloud while writing and after writing to see if all sentences make sense.
Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle, and end of your day.

Do you want to know what do Longfellow do every day? Well let me tell you what we do. Every morning we do dear, research report, and spelling. In the middle of the day we do reading, sometimes we do reading classwork and then we go to lunch. In the end of the day we do math, Dol., and Cursive. As Mr. Smith says were the best School in Milwaukee.

Longfellow starts their beginning day by doing dear. Dear is when you can relax and have a quiet time on read books. The second thing Longfellow does in the beginning of the day is do research reportes. After we do research report we do spelling that is fun because we do...
5 x each, ABC Order, Definitions, and Proof Read and write. Read on to know more about what Longfellow did on their school days.

Now do you want to know how Longfellow start their middle of the day? While let me tell you. First we go to reading group and do reading it is fun because we read great exciting books like Sassy Cato, Helen Keller Chocolate Touch, and Amber Brown. Next we do reading classwork if we're not at the brown table. Last we go to lunch and go outside but sometimes we don't. I know Miss Shariie and Miss Puzia are happy because they have quit time during recess. Here are the last things Longfellow does at the end of the day. First we do D.O.I. I like D.O.I. because we get to correct the teachers. Next
Samples of 3rd Grade Writing Pieces

Sample F-3

We do math. That’s very exciting because we do girls vs. boys with long division. Last we do Cursive. I like that because writing the letters is fun.

Now you know what I do on school days. You know what we do in the beginning of the day, middle of the day, and at the end of the day. I do these things every day at Longfellow school and it’s fun.
Sample F

Do you want to know what do Longfellow do every day? Well let me tell you what we do. Every morning we do dear, research report, and spelling. In the middle of the day we do reading, sometimes we do reading classwork and then we go to lunch. In the end of the day we do math, D.O.L. and Cursive. As Mr. Smith says were the best school in Milwaukee.

Longfellow starts their beginning day by doing dear. Dear is when you can relax et an have a quit time an read books. The second thing Longfellow does in the beginning of the day is do research reportes. After we do research report we do spelling that is fun because we do 5x each, ABC Order, Defentions, and Proof Read and write. Read on to know more about what Longfellow do an their school days.

Now do you want to know how Longfellow start their middle of the day? While let me tell you. First we go to reading group
and do reading it is fun because we read great exciting books like Squanto, Helen Keller, Chocolate Touch and Ameer Brown. Next we do reading classwork if we're not at the brown table. Last we go to lunch and go outside but sometime we don't. I know Miss Skarie and Miss Puzia are happy because they have quit time during recess.

Here are the last things Longfellow does at the end of the day. First we do D.O.L I like D.O.L because we get to correct the teachers. Next we do math. That's very exciting because we do Girls v.s. Boys with long division. Last we do Cursive I like that because writing the letters is fun.

Now you know what I do on school days. You know what we do in the beginning of the day, middle of the day and at the end of the day. I do these things every day at Longfellow school and it's fun.
**Sample F**

**Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle and end of your day.**

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**Strengths:**
- Introduction, body and conclusion evident
- Main idea is restated and clearly communicated
- Ideas are organized and there is evidence of development
- Adequate sentence sense – few fragments or run-ons
- Very few errors in capitalization, punctuation, or spelling
- Good transitions between paragraphs

**Weaknesses:**
- Word choice and usage
- Limited voice – body of each paragraph is a list

**Focus of Instruction:**
- Adding voice
- Using a thesaurus or other resources to make better word choice (“juicy word”)
- Elaborating details – less of making a list

**Student Comments:**
There are some places in your writing you added voice- I could tell you wrote this (best school in Milwaukee, read on to know, I know Miss Skarie) Could you add more voice to your piece? How could you add more interesting details to your writing? For example, what is your research report about? Why do like the spelling activities so much? Are they engaging? Add details that are unique to you and your school day. Can you think of other ways to begin each paragraph besides restating the same sentences?

**Teacher Comments:**
This student may need to move away from a repetitive format in order to create a unique piece.
Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle, and end of your day.

Do you want to know what a normal school day is like at Long-Fellow? I can tell you what a normal school day is like in third grade. At the beginning of the day we have DEAR, Spelling, and research reports. In the middle of the day we have specials, reading groups, and Lunch addresses. At the end of the day we have DAL, Cursive, and math. That's what we do everyday in third grade at school.

First I will tell you about the beginning of the day. The first thing we always do first is have DEAR time. We read lots of books until 9:30. Next we do our spelling homework. I think spelling homework is very easy for me. Finally we do our research report. Research report is all about studying different animals.
Next I’m going to tell you about the middle of the day. My favorite thing is specials. My favorite special is art because we do lots of drawing and painting. After specials we do reading groups. Reading groups are like you have to bring up a pencil and a book. My group is called Angels. I like the book we were reading because the book is funny. The title of the book is called Amber Brown Is Not A Crayon.

Last we have lunch and recesses. I’m glad our class get to eat with the other big kids, and we get to go on the big side of the playground.

Finally I will tell you about the end of the day. We always do math first. We do long division now. Sometimes long division is hard. Next we do our D.O.L. D.O.L. is when you have to correct ten sentences that have mistakes. On Friday we have have D.O.L. test. Finally we do our Cursive. In Cursive we
Never pick up our pencil of the paper. Cursive is hard.

I have told you everything we do on a normal school day. I told you about the beginning of the day, the middle of the day, and the end of the day. Longfellow is the best school in Milwaukee.
Do you want to know what a normal school day is like at LongFellow? I can tell you what a normal school day is like in third grade. At the beginning of the day we have DEAR, spelling, and research reports. In the middle of the day we have specials, reading groups, and Lunch and recesses. At the end of the day we have D.O.L., Cursive and math. That’s what we do everyday in third grade at school.

First I will tell you about the beginning of the day. The first thing we always do first is have DEAR time. We read lots of books until 9:30. Next we do our spelling homework. I think spelling homework is very easy for me. Finally we do our research reports. Research report is all about studying different animals.

Next I'm going to tell you about the middle of the day. My favorite thing is specials. My favorite special is art because we do lots of drawing and paintings. After specials we do reading groups. Reading groups are like you have to bring up a pencil and a book. My group is called Angels. I like the book we were reading because the book is funny. The title of the book is called *Amber Brown Is Not A Crayon.*

Last we have Lunch and recesses. I’m glad our class get to eat with the other big kids and we get to go on the bigge side of the playground.

Finally I will tell you about the end of the day we always do math first. We do long division now. Sometimes long division is hard. Next we do our D.O.L. DOL. is when you have to correct sentences that have mistakes. On Friday we have
DOL test. Finally we do our Cursive. In Cursive we never pick up our pencil of the paper. Cursive is hard

I have told you everything we do on a normal school day. I told you about the beginning of the day, the middle of the day, and the end of the day. LongFellow is the best school in Milwaukee.
### Kindergarten through 3rd Grade Writing Samples

Score = 3 (Proficient)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample G</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle and end of your day.</strong></td>
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#### MPS Writing Rubric – Formative

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**Strengths:**
- Introduction, body and conclusion evident
- Main idea is restated and clearly communicated
- Ideas are organized and there is evidence of development
- Adequate sentence sense – few fragments or run-ons
- Very few errors in capitalization, punctuation, or spelling
- Good transitions between paragraphs
- Author’s voice evident

**Weaknesses:**
- Limited sentence variety – many sentence begin the same…
  - “We do…”
- Effective word choice and usage
  - Using a thesaurus or other resources to make better word choices (“juicy”)

**Focus of Instruction:**
- Varied sentence beginning

**Student Comments:**
I really enjoyed your third and fourth paragraphs. How could you add more details to the second paragraph so I know more about you? Each paragraph begins with “I will tell you…” Let’s try reading your work without that sentence to see how it sounds and see if it’s necessary.

**Teacher Comments:**
Introduce voice to class. Voice could be described as the sense a real person is speaking, the heart and soul of writing, the magic, the wit, the life and breath (Culham, p. 102). Help the students discover how their writing can sound like them and make their writing one of a kind.
Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle, and end of your day.

Do you want to know what I do at Longfellow Elementary school every day? Well let me tell you what I do on a normal school day. In the beginning of the day we do D.E.A.R. time, research reports, and spelling. In the middle of the day we do specials, lunch and recess, and reading groups. At the end of the day we go over Dol, science, and math. These are all the things I do during a normal school day. Read on if you want to know more about what I do at school each day.

In the beginning of the day we do exciting things at Longfellow School. First, we do D.E.A.R. D.E.A.R. is a time to quietly read books. I like to read books like Goosebumps. Then, I work on my research report. Research reports are when we find things out about the animal we are studying. Finally, we do spelling. Spelling is
the most fun to me. Each week we get
10 spelling words in all. We use them to do
our assignments in spelling.

The middle of the school day is the
best. First, I have specials. Specials are very
cool! My favorite special is gym. I like
gym because we play basketball. Next, we
have reading groups. In reading groups we
have to read a book with a group. When
reading group is over we have to answer
questions about the story we are reading.
I like the book we are reading right now
called Superfudge. Finally, we have lunch
and recess. During lunch we eat delicious
food. I eat with the big kids sometimes. Many
of the time I eat first lunch because
I have to go with Mr. Tusan to practice
the hip hop for the school program. Some times
we go on the south playground to play.
We haven’t gone over there in a while
because there was too much snow on the
ground. I usually don’t go outside because
I’m with Mr. Tusan.
The end of the day is exciting.
First, I do math. Math is my favorite subject.
We're doing long division. I am very good at division. I like division more than addition. After that, we do science. I think science is my second favorite subject. Right now we're learning about animals. We made some dominoes out of paper. Finally, we go over D.O.L. D.O.L. is part of English. We have to correct the sentences that are on the sheet of paper. I like to do the test on Friday more than the D.O.L. we do during the week.

Now you know what I do at Longfellow School every day. Our principal, Mr. Smith, tells us this is his school in Milwaukee. I agree with him. You should come to Longfellow and experience what it is like. I guarantee you'll like it!
Sample H

Do you want to know what I do at Longfellow Elementary school everyday? Well let me tell you what I do on a normal school day. In the beginning of the day we do D.E.A.R. time, research report, and spelling. In the middle of the day we do specials, lunch and recess, and reading groups. At the end of the day we go over DOL, science and math. Those are all the things I do during a normal school day. Read on if you want to know more about what I do at school each day.

In the beginning of the day we do exciting things at Longfellow School. First, we do D.E.A.R. D.E.A.R. is a time to quietly read books. I like to read books like Goosebumps. Then, I work on my research report. Research reports are when we find things out about the animal we are studying. Finally, we do Spelling. Spelling is the most fun to me. Each
week we get 16 spelling words in all. We use them to do our assignments in spelling.

The middle of the school day is the best. First, I have specials. Specials are very cool! My favorite special is gym. I like gym because we play basketball. Next we have reading groups. In reading groups we have to read a book with a grap. When reading group is over we have to answer questions about the story we are reading. I like the book we are reading right now called SuperFudge. Finally, we have lunch and recess. During lunch we eat delicious food. I eat with the big kids sometimes. Most of the time I eat first lunch because I have to go with Mr. Tuson to practice the step for the school program. Sometimes we go on the south playground to play. We haven’t gone over there in a while
because there was too much snow on the ground. I usually
don’t go outside because I’m with Mr. Tuson.

The end of the day is exciting! First, I do math. Math is my
favorite subject. We’re doing long division. I am very good at
division. I like division more than addition. After that, we do
Science. I like Science we do cool experiments. I think Science is
my second favorite subject. Right now we’re learning about
animals. We made some dominos out of paper. Finally we go
over D.O.L. D.O.L. is part of English. We have to correct the
sentences that are on the sheet of paper. I like to do the
test on Friday more than the D.O.L. we do during the week.

Now you know what I do at Longfellow School every day.

Our principal Mr. Smith tells us this is bes school in
Milwaukee. I agree with him. You should come to Longfellow
and experience what it is like. I guarantee you’ll like it!
Score 3 (Proficient)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample H</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle and end of your day.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ Main Idea Communicated</td>
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**Student Comments:**
I loved all the details you added in to your writing but I wanted to know more. For example, Why is spelling fun? Why do you like the book Superfudge? What kind of “cool experiments” do you do in science? Is there a way you can combine some of your sentences with the same ideas to make longer sentences?

**Teacher Comments:**
This student has some great ideas. Strengthen this piece by teaching the child to “zoom-in” on some of the ideas he/she thinks are most important. Exercises in sentence combining would also be helpful.

**Strengths:**
Main idea is clearly communicated
Ideas well organized and elaborated upon author’s voice evident throughout the piece
Appropriate word choice
Effective use of transitions
Very few errors in capitalization, punctuation, and spelling
Minimal sentence errors
Sentence fluency and variety

**Weaknesses:**
Higher level word choice

**Focus of Instruction:**
Using a thesaurus or other resources to make better word choices (“juicy”)
Adding description/descriptive words
Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle, and end of your day.

This is how start school we start Dear reading then Mr. Smith dose anousemens then we do the Pledge of legens then Ms. W. coms to get her kids and we do work in her class then we go back in her clas then we ate Lunch then we do cursive then we do houm work then we git redy to go Home.
Sample L

This is how start school we start Dear reading then Mr. Smith dose anousemens then we do the Pledge of legens then Ms. W. coms to get her kids and we do work in her class then we go back in her clas then we ate Lunch then we do cursive then we do houm work then we git redy to go Home.
Score = 1 (Minimal)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample L</th>
<th>Strengths:</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle and end of your day.</td>
<td>Main idea communicated</td>
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<td>Some organization</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Weaknesses:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undeveloped</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lack of sentence sense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor conventions (spelling, capitalization and punctuation)</td>
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<tr>
<th>MPS Writing Rubric – Formative</th>
<th>Focus of Instruction:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Yes</strong></td>
<td>Development of ideas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Idea Communicated</td>
<td>Conventions (spelling, capitalization and punctuation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ideas sufficiently organized &amp; developed</td>
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<td>Evidence of author’s response to the writing task (voice)</td>
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<td>Occasional errors in capitalization, punctuation and spelling do not impair comprehension</td>
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**Student Comments:**
Your writing does a good job of starting at the beginning of the day and moving toward the end. Could you think about some of the things you study doing the day? What kind of work do you have to do with Ms. W? Let’s see if you can think of three things that happen during your day; one in the morning, one right before lunch and one in the afternoon? Try making a list of all the things that you do during the day and let’s talk again.

**Teacher Comments:**
Work with this student on generating ideas. Help him/her break the day down and use a graphic organizer to group ideas.
Samples of 3rd Grade Writing Pieces
Sample N
## Tell about your entire day at school. Remember to include what you do in the beginning, middle, and end of your day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Although my day at school is long, it is filled with learning and fun filled activities. The day begins with D.E.A.R. (drop everything and read) time. At this time we are required to read for recreation. We are allowed to books or magazines that we find interesting. This lasts for 20 to 30 minutes. After D.E.A.R. announcements are made by the principal, during this time he sets his expectations for us for the day. We must quietly listen. Then we begin our seatwork while the teachers take attendance and lunch count.</th>
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<tr>
<td>For the rest of the morning, we work in reading groups. I’m in the level 4 group. Some of the things we do include phonics, oral reading and comprehension activities. I especially enjoy oral reading because I am an expressive reader.</td>
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<tr>
<td>---</td>
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<td>After reading we have lunch and lunch recess. Most of the time I have hot lunch even though I don’t always like what the cooks make for us. I know the food is suppose to be nutritious, but shouldn’t it also taste good and appeal to children? When I’m done eating I play outside with my friends. Most of the time we jump rope or just talk.</td>
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<tr>
<td>In the afternoon we do math, writing and science or social studies. During math we are working on multiplying 2 digit numbers. I know most of my facts (7’s and 8’s can take extra time). In writing I am working on adding more details to my paragraphs. I do this by painting a picture with words for the reader to image. Writing is one of my favorite subjects. That is when we get to write about what we are interested in. I don’t always like the writing prompts that are assigned. My teacher says we have to learn to do all types of writing. In my free time I sometimes write poems. I like science more that social studies and this week we have science so I’m pleased. We have just started studying rocks and minerals. I don’t know too much about them yet, but I’m looking forward to learning about them.</td>
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<tr>
<td>At the end of the day we get our homework and write in our assignment notebooks. Then we clean our areas up and get ready to go home. Boy does the day go by quickly!</td>
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**Kindergarten through 3rd Grade Writing Samples**

Score = 4 (Advanced)

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**MPS Writing Rubric – Formative**

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**Student Comments:**
You did an excellent job of picking precise words to paint a clear picture for the reader. I love the beginning and ending of the paper. Could you add some more details to your paper? For example, why do you like science more than social studies? What don’t you like about some of the writing prompts? What do you like to read for recreation?

**Teacher Comments:**
Help this student to see where adding more details would be appropriate.

**Strengths:**
- Main idea clearly communicated
- Ideas well organized and developed
- Effective word choice
- Author’s personality imprinted on writing task

**Weaknesses:**

**Focus of Instruction:**