Early Years Writing Using Rubrics

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Description: A rubric designed to improve children’s writing using self and peer assessment.

How could I use it? 🍁 To assess knowledge or performance against criteria developed by the teacher and students.
🍁 To make explicit for students what skills they need to develop in their writing.
🍁 To identify areas where extra support may be needed.

Why should I use it? This rubric can be used to:

- focus student goal setting on their writing
- engage students more closely in the assessment of their writing
- set explicit standards that students can understand
- develop students’ reflective skills about their writing.

When should I use it? 🍁 It can be developed by the teacher and students at the beginning of a term or writing session or task.
🍁 It can be used by a student at the end of a writing task.
🍁 Students can reflect on their progress regularly and set further writing goals.
How do I use it?

❖ The teacher (or the teacher and students) discuss the requirements for the writing task and the criteria it should be assessed against.

❖ The teacher introduces the idea of a rubric and shows some simple examples of their use.

❖ The teacher then models for the students how their writing criteria can be developed into a rubric.

❖ The students practice using the rubric to decide at what level their current writing piece is. They then highlight it on a copy of the rubric. These decisions can be made by the students working in pairs or small groups or in discussion with the teacher. The teacher needs to act as a guide.

❖ The students complete another writing task taking into account the areas that they wish to improve.

❖ They give their second writing task and the student’s highlighted rubric to another student to read and assess.

❖ The student should highlight the areas that have improved. Students should then hold a short discussion with the teacher on the reasons for the assessment and to set goals for future writing.