

# **Writing Skills Path: Tier I Instruction**

## **Kindergarten**

Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to share a topic. → Use a capital letter to start sentences. → End sentences with punctuation marks. → Use finger spaces. → Use neat handwriting. → Write sentences that make sense.

## **1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

All of the above skills. → Write 3 or more sentences on topic. → Spell Dolch words correctly. → Use a variety of punctuation marks (period, exclamation point, question mark).

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

All of the above skills. → Capitalize all proper nouns. → Every sentence contains a subject. → Every sentence contains a predicate. → Use descriptive words, such as adjectives and adverbs, appropriately for interest.

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

All of the above skills. → Use word chunking to spell words. → Introduce a topic and provide a conclusion. → Writing makes sense and sticks to the topic. → Categorize ideas by organizing them into paragraphs. → Blend paragraphs into a three-paragraph essay. → Include details and/or supporting facts. → Include transition words in writing. → Reread, edit, and revise writing. → Create a final draft.

## **4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

All of the above skills. → Use a variety of sentence lengths. → Begin sentences with different words and phrases. → Include details and/or supporting facts. → Reread, edit, and revise writing. → Final draft has meaning, focus, coherence, progression, logical support of ideas.

## **5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

All of the above skills. → Develop a multi-paragraph essay with voice and point of view. → Use different writing techniques, such as foreshadowing, imagery, similes, metaphors, and figurative language. → Consider purpose, genre expectations, audience, length, format requirements.

## **6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> Grades**

All of the above skills. → Include formatting (i.e. headings), graphics (i.e. charts, tables), and multimedia to enhance writing. → Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources. → Quote or paraphrase data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism. → Cite text evidence in writing appropriately.