

**CCSS Informational/Explanatory Writing Rubric  
Grade 2**

<b>Score</b>	<b>Purpose and Organization</b>	<b>Elaboration</b>	<b>Conventions</b>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>The informative/explanatory text is clearly focused:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effectively writes factual information on a single topic or idea and maintains a strong focus</li> <li>Logical progression of ideas from beginning to end</li> <li>Effective use of varied transitional words and phrases used to connect ideas</li> <li>Effective introduction and conclusion</li> </ul>	<p><b>The informative/explanatory text provides effective elaboration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effective use of facts and definitions to develop points</li> <li>Includes multiple details to elaborate on facts and definitions</li> <li>Includes deliberately inserted, varied, and appropriate descriptive language including academic and domain specific vocabulary</li> </ul>	<p><b>The writing demonstrates a strong command of conventions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Few, if any, errors in usage and sentence formation</li> <li>Effective and consistent use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>The informative/explanatory text is adequately focused:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writes factual information on a single topic or idea and maintains focus</li> <li>Adequate progression of ideas from beginning to end</li> <li>Adequate use of transitional words to connect ideas</li> <li>Adequate introduction and conclusion</li> </ul>	<p><b>The informative/explanatory text provides adequate elaboration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of facts and definitions to develop points</li> <li>Includes details to elaborate on facts and definitions</li> <li>Adequate use of descriptive language including academic and domain specific vocabulary</li> </ul>	<p><b>The writing demonstrates an adequate command of conventions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some errors in usage and sentence formation but no systematic pattern of errors is displayed</li> <li>Adequate use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>The informative/explanatory text is somewhat focused:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writes factual information on a topic but may lack focus</li> <li>Progression of ideas may be uneven or formulaic</li> <li>Simple or awkward use of transitional words</li> <li>Introduction and conclusion may be weak or patterned</li> </ul>	<p><b>The informative/explanatory text provides minimal elaboration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of facts and definitions may be weak or unrelated</li> <li>Few details used to elaborate on facts and definitions or may be unrelated</li> <li>Descriptive language and vocabulary use is somewhat ineffective or awkward</li> </ul>	<p><b>The writing demonstrates a partial command of conventions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequent errors in usage may obscure meaning</li> <li>Inconsistent use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling</li> </ul>
<b>1</b>	<p><b>The informative/explanatory text lacks focus:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Topic may be unclear, too brief, or drifts</li> <li>Few or no transitional words used</li> <li>Introduction or conclusion may be missing</li> </ul>	<p><b>The informative/explanatory text provides no elaboration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of facts and definitions is minimal</li> <li>Lacks descriptive language and use of vocabulary is limited</li> </ul>	<p><b>The writing demonstrates a lack of command of conventions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Errors are frequent and severe and meaning is often obscured</li> </ul>