**WRITING CONTINUUM**

Level 1 – Makes uncontrolled or unidentifiable scribbling.

Level 2 – Imitates writing, draws somewhat recognizable picture, tells about picture.

Level 3 – Writes to convey a message; attempts to read it back, use letter-like forms

and/or random letter strings, prints own name or occasional known word.

Level 4 – Correctly uses some letters to match sounds, may use one beginning letter to

write a word, usually writes left to right, may reverse some letters.

Level 5 – Represents beginning and ending consonant sounds, spells some high-frequency words correctly in sentences, includes some vowels (often not correct ones), writes one or more sentences.

Level 6 – Correctly spells many high-frequency words in sentences, uses vowels in

most syllables (may not be correct ones), begins to use simple punctuation

(periods, question marks- may not be correct), writes three or more

sentences.

Level 6.5 – Writes more than 5 sentences, begins to write stories with a beginning,

middle and end, uses punctuation correctly 50% of the time, uses correct

vowels in most syllables, correctly spells most high-frequency words, uses a wide range of vocabulary to create varied sentences.

Level 7 – Correctly spells most high-frequency words, uses larger correctly spelled

vocabulary, may use phonetic spelling for advanced words, uses more complex

and varied sentence structure, capitalizes beginning word in sentence, uses

lowercase appropriately, usually uses periods and question marks correctly,

spaces words correctly.

Level 8 – Has accumulated a rich body of written vocabulary, uses advanced print

conventions accurately (quotation marks, commas, apostrophes), organizes

writing into appropriate paragraphs.