

# Student Rubric for Ideas

- 6**
- My main message or story is clear and will hold your attention.
  - I know this topic inside and out and take readers on a journey of discovery.
  - I included intriguing details a reader will notice and remember.
  - My writing makes a point—or focuses on a clearly defined message or issue.

- 5**
- My main message or story is interesting and easy to understand.
  - I share important information—and tell enough to give readers a full picture.
  - My paper contains many interesting details.
  - I narrowed my topic enough to give readers an in-depth look at my subject.

- 4**
- A reader can identify my main idea or make sense of my story.
  - I have enough information for a first draft, but more would help.
  - My writing includes a few interesting details. Readers might want more.
  - I think I need to narrow my topic a little. I'm trying to cover too much.

- 3**
- A reader can guess what my main idea is—or tell what my story is about.
  - I know enough to start—then I have to make things up.
  - My details are general—things many readers already know.
  - My topic feels way too BIG. I can't cover everything.

- 2**
- A reader might have trouble figuring out the main message here.
  - The story or message isn't really clear in my mind. I just wrote to fill the page.
  - I repeat things—or stop when I run out of things to say.
  - I bounce from topic to topic—or list thoughts at random.

- 1**
- I put my first thoughts on paper. You couldn't call it an essay or story—yet!
  - I'm still figuring out my topic.