Second Grade Quarterly Benchmarks – Opinion

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
Process (with guidance and support)	Uses an organized plan to include Introduction (topic and opinion), Body (facts and reasons),	Uses several planning strategies (list, web, Venn)	Uses several planning strategies (list, web, Venn)	Uses several planning strategies (list, web, Venn)
	Conclusion (closure) Uses opinion words and phrases in plan (may still use some sketches)	Identifies a topic, purpose and specific reader/audience for piece	Identifies a topic, purpose and specific reader/audience for piece	Identifies a topic, purpose and specific reader/audience for piece
	Identifies a topic and specific reader/ audience for piece	Adds, substitutes, or deletes from piece individually or collaboratively	Adds, substitutes, or deletes from piece individually or collaboratively	Adds, substitutes, or deletes from piece individually or collaboratively
	Adds on or deletes from piece individually or collaboratively	Evidence of proofreading for spelling, punctuation, and grammar	Evidence of proofreading for spelling, punctuation, grammar and usage	Expands and rearranges sentence structures
	Evidence of proofreading for spelling, punctuation, and grammar	Uses a variety of sources	Uses a variety of sources	Evidence of proofreading for spelling, punctuation, grammar and usage
	Uses a variety of sources	Carries writing over two or more days	Carries writing over two or more days	Uses a variety of sources
	Carries writing over two or more days	Student publishes selected pieces in a variety of ways	Student publishes selected pieces in a variety of ways	Carries writing over two or more days
	Student publishes selected pieces in a variety of ways			Student publishes selected pieces in a variety of ways
Surface Features/ Conventions	6 – 7 sentences in length	Begins to format ideas into paragraph form (indenting)	Indents paragraph about one topic with supporting details	Indents paragraph about one topic with supporting details
	Uses knowledge of more complex letter/sound relationships	Spells unknown words using knowledge of word structures	Spells unknown words using knowledge of word structures	Spells unknown words using knowledge of word structures
	Contains correctly spelled "Green Card" words and environmental print	Uses a variety of ending punctuation	Uses a variety of punctuation including apostrophes and commas	Uses a variety of punctuation including apostrophes, commas and quotation marks
	Uses a variety of ending punctuation		Commos	and quoranon marks
S	Capitalizes beginning of sentences, pronoun "1" and proper noun			
Content	Writing is sequential and matched to plan	Writing is logically sequenced within intro, body, conclusion	Writing is logically sequenced within intro, body, conclusion	Writing is logically sequenced within intro, body, conclusion
	Writes an opinion with supporting reasons in response to a topic or text	Writes an opinion with supporting reasons in response to a topic, text or source	Writes an opinion with supporting reasons in response to a topic, text or source	Writes an opinion with supporting reasons in response to a topic, text or source
	Contains introductory statements	Contains introductory statements	Introductory statements engage the reader	Introductory statements engage the reader
	Reasons are relevant to the opinion	Reasons are relevant to the opinion	Reasons are relevant to the opinion	Reasons are relevant to the opinion
	Contains descriptive vocabulary that reflects the opinion	Contains descriptive-vocabulary that reflects the opinion	Contains descriptive vocabulary that is specific to the opinion	Contains descriptive vocabulary that is specific to the opinion
	Uses linking words (e.g. and, also, another, because)	Begins to use varied sentence structures (simple and compound)	Uses varied sentence structures	Uses varied sentence structures
	Provides a sense of closure	Uses linking words	Uses linking words	Writes in third person if citing sources
		Provides a sense of closure	Provides a concluding statement	Uses linking words
				Provides a concluding statement from a menu of closing techniques (reinforce rather than repeat, question, quote)