

Figure 5.1 Mystery Writing Rubric for Elementary Grades

Mystery Writer's Name: _____

Mystery Reader's Name: _____

	Sleuth!	Tracker	Back to the Drawing Board
Plot	The plot has a strong beginning, middle, and ending that I can follow.	Most of the plot makes sense, but I have some questions.	I'm confused!
Characters	The characters are described in detail.	Some characters are described in detail, but others are confusing.	Not sure who is in the story or why!
Clues	There are clues that make sense.	Some clues are there, but others are missing.	The clues didn't add up!
Distractions	There was a good distraction that threw me off the trail!	There was a distraction, but I could figure it out right away.	There was no distraction to keep me on my toes.
Solution	Everything made sense at the end!	Most of the solutions made sense, but I still have questions.	The mystery wasn't solved in a way I could understand.
What's Next	Meet next with Ms. Carlson to polish your story.	Meet next with Ms. Carlson to work out the bugs.	Meet next with Ms. Carlson to tighten up your mystery.