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Contact Information

Crystal Telep

Business and Education Specialist

623-434-1204 Ext 1010

[customerservice@spalding.org](mailto:customerservice@spalding.org)

**Summary:** Spalding's *The Writing Road to Reading*, which is accredited by The International Multisensory Structured Language Education Council (IMSLEC) and the International Dyslexia Association (IDA), is a total language arts program that integrates essential research-based components, an educational philosophy, and a methodology consisting of time-tested principles of learning and instruction. The Spalding Method provides explicit, interactive, diagnostic instruction in spelling, writing, and reading comprehension. Lessons are sequential, moving from easiest to more difficult and activities are multi-sensory. Each daily lesson is integrated in spelling, writing, and reading.

The program begins by teaching students to connect speech sounds to print using 70 sound-letter units called phonograms. After the phonograms are learned, spelling instruction begins with a list of words compiled by frequency of use. When taught the 70 phonograms and 29 spelling/language rules, students can spell about 80 percent of the English language.

A simple marking system, taught in conjunction with spelling, helps students identify what sound is being used. In that way, spelling and marking become an exciting exercise in problem solving and critical thinking.

Kindergartners and first grade students read Spalding Readers aligned to their knowledge of phonograms. Because students already know how to decode words, they can concentrate on thinking and reasoning about content.

Through fine literature read every day, students learn comprehension strategies and the attributes of fine literature and writing; skills that are then transferred to other lessons throughout curricula.