
Reading Curriculum

A Model of Excellence in Education



Reading Curriculum Philosophy:

- Because success in life requires accurate spelling, accomplished writing and skilled reading, Timpanogos Academy is dedicated to bringing literacy to students of all ages, regardless of economic status, ethnic diversity, or disability.
- To accomplish this, the school emphasizes the teaching of all components identified by the National Reading Panel as essential for reading success:
 - ❑ **Phonemic Awareness**
 - ❑ **Phonics**
 - ❑ **Fluency**
 - ❑ **Vocabulary**
 - ❑ **Comprehension**
- In addition, Timpanogos Academy emphasizes the teaching and practice of hand-writing because children who form their letters correctly are better able to recognize them when reading text.
- Consistent with these guiding principles, Timpanogos Academy selected the Spalding Reading Method to teach the prescribed Core Knowledge language arts curriculum. Mastery of the complete language arts curriculum for all students is emphasized.



Reading Curriculum: Spalding Method Overview



- *The Spalding Method* is a phonics based program for teaching students to read by first teaching them to write.
- Spalding is a total language arts approach which integrates instruction in speaking, spelling, writing, listening, and reading comprehension. Instructional materials include phonograms, rules for pronunciation, spelling and language, syllable division, the Extended Ayres Word List (presented in a variety of formats for maximal teacher ease and utility) and a K-8 recommended scope and sequence.
- Students embrace quality literature and reading comprehension is facilitated by the internalization of high frequency words and the skills to sound out unknown words. Reading takes place every day as does the listening to an excerpt of good quality literature, read by the teacher.
- Handwriting is an integral part of all lessons. There are precise instructions for how letters are formed. Correct pencil grip is stressed and lessons begin in Kindergarten teaching children how to form letters correctly.
- Direct, sequential instruction is in place to explicitly teach each skill and proceed from simple to complex.
- The Spalding Method is ideal for teaching students to read and write because it develops skilled readers, critical listeners, accomplished speakers, spellers, and writers who are life long learners.