# Core Program Summary

## Spalding, The Writing Road to Reading, 2012

### Information

**This program was approved for use in:**

* **Kindergarten**
* **First Grade**
* **Second Grade**
* **Third Grade**

**Core (Universal) Programming:** A reading program that is used to help guide both initial and differentiated instruction in the regular classroom. It supports instruction in the broad range of reading skills (phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension) required to become a skilled reader. It contains teacher’s manuals with explicit lesson plans and provides reading and practice materials for students (FCRR, n.d.).

**Please access the scored rubric online to review the specific criteria and feedback for each approved core reading program.**

Rubrics are available for all instructional program reviewed from the CDE upon request. Please contact READAct@cde.state.co.us.

The Colorado Reading to Ensure Academic Development Act (READ Act), passed by the Colorado legislature in 2012, focuses on early literacy development for all students kindergarten through third grade and especially for students at risk of not reaching grade-level proficiency in reading by the end of third grade. Included in the READ Act is the requirement that the department shall create an advisory list of evidence-based or scientifically based instructional programming in reading, pursuant to C.R.S. 22-7-1209.

The main purpose of the READ Act Advisory List of Instructional Programming is to provide districts and schools with a choice of instructional programming that adequately enhances teacher quality and is a major vehicle that schools/districts can utilize to upgrade their capacity as it relates to the implementation of the evidence-based literacy practices.

### CDE Core Program Rating Summary

**Kindergarten: Meets Expectations**

**First Grade:** **Meets Expectations**

**Second Grade:**  **Meets Expectations**

**Third Grade:** **Meets Expectations**

**Usability:** **Meets Expectations**

### Vendor Information and Program Summary

**Vendor: Spalding Education International**

**Publication year (or edition): 6th Edition, 2012**

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**Vendor provided 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.