

"Literacy is a right,
not a privilege,
and EL Education
is granting that right
to every student in
our district."

Sherri Miller,
K-12 Literacy Director,
Wake County Public School System



Transformational Literacy for All Learners

EL Education is transforming literacy education with an acclaimed curriculum, proven professional development, and a suite of resources which empowers teachers to master their greatest aspirations and all students to achieve high standards.

Our Language Arts Curriculum

Created by teachers for teachers, and based on college and career readiness standards, the EL Education Language Arts curriculum is a comprehensive, research-informed, core language arts program that engages teachers and students through compelling, real world content.

Literacy Partnerships

Literacy partners are public schools and districts working alongside EL Education over multiple years, pairing our resources and practices with our expert professional development to achieve the greatest results for students and teachers. For Literacy Partners, the curriculum is at the center of an ecosystem of support, including coaching, resources, institutes, online courses, and virtual supports customized to their unique needs.

#1

The EL Education K-5 Language Arts earned the highest ever overall score for a K-5 Language Arts curriculum from independent reviewer EdReports.org.

10 million+

Free downloads of our Language Arts curricula online.

40 Literacy Partners

Literacy Partners are public schools and districts working alongside EL Education over multiple years.

400+ Schools, 210,000+ Students

Our Literacy Partner districts represent more than 400 schools and serve more than 210,000 students.

45 States + DC

Our curriculum has broad appeal in diverse communities across the nation.



What sets the curriculum apart?

Built for Equity

Our curriculum honors assets and supports the needs of ELLs, economically disadvantaged students, students with disabilities, and advanced learners through differentiated and inclusive activities.

Research-informed

It is designed to close the literacy opportunity gap, incorporating research-proven supports for learners.

Engaging, Complex Texts

Students tackle grade-level texts that stretch and grow their abilities, while experiencing the joy of learning from their favorite books by diverse authors.

Social Emotional Learning

EL Education was founded on the belief that schools can help students become effective learners and ethical people with the capacity to build a better world. Our curriculum encourages compassionate leadership and thoughtful citizenship by helping students connect their learning to their communities, where schoolwork has real impact on issues they care about.

Free, Open Educational Resource

We believe that all students and educators deserve access to high quality educational resources, so our curriculum is open access, available online for free, and adaptable by providers who are meeting diverse school needs.

Promotes Scholarship

Students engage in original research and deep interdisciplinary investigations, developing habits of inquiry, analysis, and craftsmanship.

Standards-based

It is tailor-built to standards and receives quality reviews against acclaimed standards-alignment rubrics (IMET, EQuIP) conducted by leading experts.

Building Content Knowledge

Students acquire substantive knowledge—science and social studies—as a means of building deeper literacy skills. Teachers build knowledge and skills simultaneously.

“EL Education’s curriculum has changed me as a teacher, pushing my own growth mindset. It pulled me off the stage and put my students on the stage. It’s opening doors and fostering their ability to take risks and dream big.”

Tracy Haynes, 6th grade teacher, Craigmont Middle School, Shelby County, TN

What is EL Education?

EL Education is a national nonprofit helping students become great scholars and great citizens with the capacity to contribute to a better world. In partnership with public schools and districts, we expand the definition of student achievement so that students master knowledge and skills, produce high quality work, and develop character. Through our curriculum, school design, professional development, and resources, we empower teachers to reach their highest aspirations, and students to achieve more than they thought possible, motivated by their power to change the world.

Curriculum Impact

Our Literacy Partners are achieving remarkable results with the EL Education Language Arts curriculum as their road map and professional development as their guide. They are inspiring growth in teacher practice and student achievement.

Proven to Lift Teacher Practice

U.S. Department of Education-funded study:
Teacher Potential Project

EL Education Literacy Partnerships are proven to empower both novice and veteran teachers to help students meet higher standards. In a rigorous independent study of Literacy Partners (72 schools & 18 districts pairing the curriculum with EL Education's professional development), **Mathematica Policy Research** found that teachers significantly outperformed a control group in key areas of teacher practice in just one year.

Teacher used reading activities focused on the meaning of the text



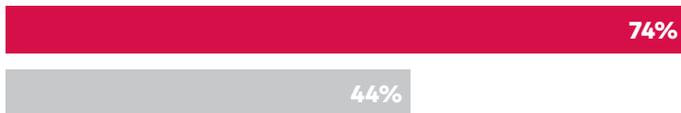
Students did close readings of text to look for answers to specific questions



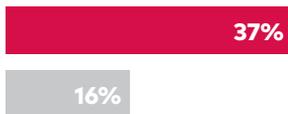
Students cited text evidence to support their responses



Teacher asked students to reread the text



The observed lesson involved developing students' content knowledge

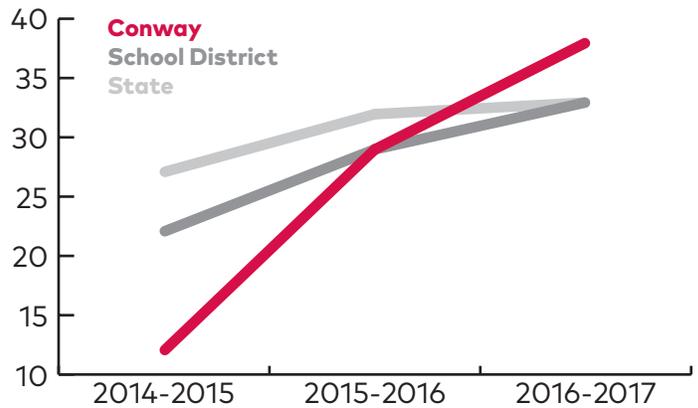


Achievement Gains for Equity

Literacy Partners from across the country see dramatic gains for students in historically underserved subgroups, and find that students in those populations outperform their state and district peers.

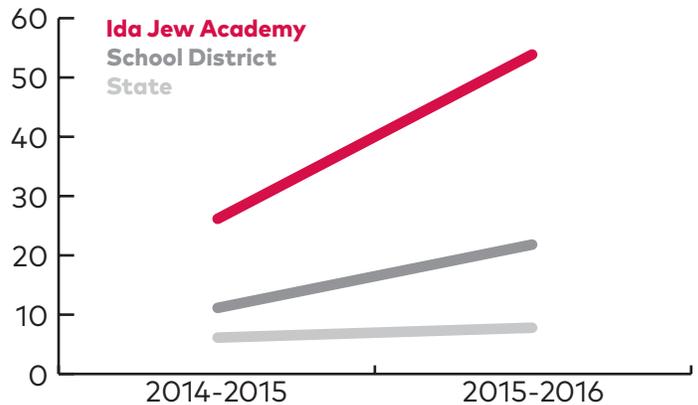
Conway Elementary

Economically Disadvantaged Students
(% Proficient)



Ida Jew Academy

English Language Learners (ELLs)
(% Proficient)



Research Behind the Curriculum Design

We believe all students deserve the chance to achieve their greatest potential. Too often, children are denied access to fundamental learning, even before starting school. Opportunities to achieve are fewer and even harder to grasp for students who were denied early access to the building blocks of literacy. Yet research shows that schools can close the literacy opportunity gap and the resulting achievement gap by ensuring all students have access to proven elements of literacy instruction. These elements form the foundation of our curriculum.*

Vocabulary

Research says....

Word knowledge, especially academic vocabulary, is critical for comprehension. Sticking with texts on the same topic can yield up to 4x the vocabulary growth.

... So Our Curriculum Design...

Lessons focus on volume of reading and close reading of multiple complex texts on a topic. Instruction focuses on the morphology of words, so students gain word-learning strategies, rather than just memorizing.

Knowledge-Building

Research shows....

The more one knows about a topic, the more one is able to read and understand about it. Knowledge of science and social studies drives literacy.

... So Our Curriculum Design...

The curriculum is based on topics rather than “themes” or “skills.” Students read and discuss multiple texts on a topic over many weeks so they can develop passion and expertise which fuel literacy.

Syntax

Research shows....

The ability to parse complex syntax is a critical prerequisite to developing reading proficiency.

... So Our Curriculum Design...

Students are exposed to complex sentence structures in written and spoken language. They read or hear the same complex text multiple times for comprehension and composition.

Fluency

Research shows....

Without fluency, students cannot achieve comprehension.

... So Our Curriculum Design...

Students learn to decode increasingly complex texts with automaticity by following along with fluent readers and by reading texts multiple times.

Decoding

Research shows....

Structured phonics is the most effective way to help students crack the alphabetic code, by teaching the spelling-sound patterns of English in a clear sequence.

... So Our Curriculum Design...

Students learn letter recognition, phonological awareness, and a sequence of grapheme/ phoneme patterns in and out of context, using phonetically controlled readers paired with engagement texts.

* Based on a presentation by David Liben, Student Achievement Partners, July 2015; adapted with permission. For more information and research citations, see Chapter 1, *Your Curriculum Companion: The Essential Guide to Teaching the EL Education K-5 Language Arts Curriculum*. Copyright 2017 by EL Education. All rights reserved.