



District Profile

Location: China Spring, Texas

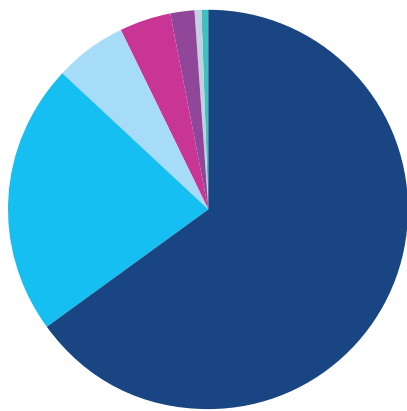
Community Type: Rural

District Enrollment: 2,958

Teacher-to-student ratio: 14:1

Enrollment by Gender:
48% Female | 52% Male

Emergent Bilingual Learners: 2%



Enrollment by Demographic:

- 65% White
- 22% Hispanic/Latino
- 6% Black or African American
- 4% Two or more races
- 2% Asian or Asian Pacific Islander
- <1% American Indian or Alaska Native
- <1% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Texas District Elevates Reading Instruction With Foundations A-Z

Challenge

In 2020, China Spring ISD, a public school district south of Dallas, identified a need for more comprehensive reading resources and online learning components and initiated a search process. The district was looking for a phonics solution that offered systematic, direct instruction as mandated in Texas House Bill 3. They also wanted a solution that could be easily integrated into their existing curriculum and could be effectively used by all of their teachers regardless of experience level.

Solution

China Spring ISD chose Foundations A-Z, a comprehensive K-5 foundational skills solution from Learning A-Z, to deliver systematic, explicit phonics instruction. Foundations A-Z was selected because it met all state requirements for phonics programs. The decision was also influenced by an earlier implementation of Raz-Plus, another award-winning supplemental K-5 reading solution from Learning A-Z.

Kristen Dutschmann, the Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment at China Spring ISD, said in the end the decision was easy. "The benefits of Foundations A-Z sell themselves. [The teachers] see the kids' reading is improving, [and] their spelling is improving, because they're able to sound out words and connect sounds with letters."

Implementation

The district implemented Foundations A-Z for all students in kindergarten through fourth grade, even though the state only required a phonics curriculum for grades K-3. This decision was made to ensure consistency and continuity in phonics instruction throughout students' formative years. Teachers used Foundations A-Z comprehensively for whole-class instruction, small group and guided reading group time, and independent technology stations.

Schools Using Foundations A-Z

- China Spring Primary School - Grades K-1
- China Spring Elementary School - Grades 2-4

Results

China Spring ISD's implementation of Foundations A-Z has met their criteria for success. The solution has become an integral part of the district's phonics curriculum. It has been embraced by teachers and students alike. And most importantly—it's working.

You know if you're sitting with kids every day at the teacher table that you're seeing that their fluency is improving. You're seeing that they are using the decoding strategies now. They're not guessing at words. They're using the decoding strategies to sound out words.



Kristen Dutschmann, Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, China Spring ISD



What Teachers Like

Teachers appreciate the flexibility of having both digital and printable options, the vast amount of resources available, and the ability to use them for whole-group, small-group, and independent learning stations. They also appreciate the quality of the content provided by Foundations A-Z and the ease of finding the all resources they need in one spot.

About Foundations A-Z

Foundations A-Z is an award-winning K-5 solution that equips teachers with the essential tools and resources they need to deliver explicit, systematic foundational skills instruction that aligns with the Science of Reading. With a wide array of independent practice opportunities and easy access to a fun, space-themed student portal, Foundations A-Z is designed to engage every student and boost every core curriculum.

Learn more by visiting FoundationsA-Z.com