

# Language Arts the Charlotte Mason Way

*"Children have a natural aptitude for literary expression which they enjoy in hearing or reading and employ in telling or writing."*

*What is Language Arts?*

## *A Typical Language Arts Program*

Alphabet  
Phonics/Beginning Reading  
Rhyming words  
Handwriting  
Reading Comprehension  
Writing Composition  
Vocabulary  
Spelling  
Grammar  
Listening skills  
Parts of speech  
Sentence structure  
Punctuation  
Capitalization  
Public speaking  
Proofreading  
Reference skills (alphabetizing; using a dictionary, etc.)  
Word study (homonyms, synonyms, prefixes, suffixes)

## *A Charlotte Mason Language Arts Program*

Grade 1–3	Grades 4–12
<b>Integrated into Regular Subjects</b> (like History, Geography, Bible, Science, etc.)	
Good Literature; Vocabulary naturally through context	
Reading for Instruction	Reading for Instruction
Oral Narration	
	Written Narration
	Practice Reading Aloud
<b>Specific Language Arts Lessons</b>	
Beginning Reading	
Copywork and Transcription	Dictation
Poetry	
	Shakespeare
	English Grammar

### *Integrated Methods*

- Literature (all grades)
  - Living books
  - Not twaddle
  
- Vocabulary (all grades)
  - Naturally through context

- Reading for Instruction (all grades)
  - Grades 1–3 have their books read to them.
  - Grades 4–12 read their books for themselves.
  
- Oral Narration (all grades)
  - Naturally includes reading comprehension.
  - Preparation and practice for composition.
  
- Written Narration / Composition (grades 4–12)
  - Naturally includes reading comprehension.
  - Basis for composition guidance.
  
- Practice Reading Aloud (all grades, as ready)
  - Grades 1–3 practice as they learn to read (beginning reading).

### *Language Arts Lessons*

- Beginning Reading (grades 1–3)
  - Includes rhymes, phonics, and sight words.
  - Practice reading aloud.
  - Beginning spelling awareness.

- Copywork and Transcription (grades 1–3)

Naturally includes capitalization, punctuation, beginning spelling awareness.

- Prepared Dictation (grades 4–12)

Includes capitalization, punctuation, spelling.

Reinforces good writing style and English grammar.

- Poetry (all grades)

Includes rhymes, memorization, and recitation.

- Shakespeare (grades 4–12)

- English Grammar (grades 4–12)