Accelerated Reader

The way to success

What is it for?

- Reading is important in all aspects of your life
- There is very little in life that you can do without being able to read well
- It is very important that you understand what you are reading
- Reading can help you achieve, make progress in school and give you a break from it!

Why is it so good? What's in it for me?

When you know what books suit you and can identify books you are able to read, without stopping all the time to find out what a word means, books are more enjoyable.

- You can immerse yourself in the story.
- You can imagine the characters and setting.
- You can speculate on what happens next.
- You can laugh, cry, get cross, feel sympathy, empathize and imagine what you would do…

Accelerated™ Reader

Ok… so how does it work?

- You take a Star Test
- This works out your zone of proximal development (ZPD)- based on ability
- A range of book levels are suggested to guide your reading, which fall within your ZPD
- You choose a book at the lower end of your range (this will be an easy book) and work your way up
- You take a quiz on the book within 24 hours of finishing the book

Star Testing

- The Star Test is very important
- This is a timed quiz for comprehension
- It should take at least 20 minutes
- It is very important that you do not guess the answers
- If you go through the test too quickly your teacher will stop it
- Your book level ZPD will be calculated immediately

Accelerated Reader Quizzes

- You must read for the equivalent of 10 minutes a day 5 times per week on the accelerated reader program
- THIS IS PART OF YOUR HOME LEARNING Monday to Friday. The time reading in form and during form time lessons makes up the rest of the time.
- You need to achieve your points totals every term to prove you have done your home learning
- Your tutor will monitor your progress through your books
- To pass a quiz you must get 60% or more

Accelerated™ Reader

How do I find a book?

- The books in the school library have been set out in book level order, to make it easy for you to find a book
- The Accelerated Reader program will recommend books, based on what you have read so far and how you rated them. Check online after you finish your quiz.
- Books with an ATOS level are the same as AR books. Book shops will have access to this information

What if…

…I am reading a thick book that is taking me a long time?

To ensure you meet the home learning criteria you might need to check the points value of the book and may need to ask your teacher for help in planning a strategy for how you are going to meet your homework target.

What if…

I can't remember what has happened in the book?

- Short books might help train your brain to remember the detail in stories – try some in your ZPD
- Stop every now and then and ask yourself, what has happened? Could I tell someone else the details of the story so far?
- If not, re-read the chunk you have just read to recap and make a few notes

What happens…

If my ZPD goes down?

Don’t panic, it can go up again just as quickly!

- You could have guessed on the first Star Test and been lucky
- You could have just had a bad day
- You could have rushed the test

What happens…

If all my quizzes are passed at 80% or more?

- As you progress up your ZPD range the books will get harder, but you will be well practiced at the questions the quizzes pose, so without realizing it you will find you are making excellent progress
- Before each AOL you will be star tested again and this will raise your ZPD book level range

What if…

I am at the top of my ZPD and getting 100%?

Accomplished readers need to challenge themselves, so you could try:

- a different genre
- a non fiction text
- a classic novel
- Your tutor knows you, so talk it over with them or see your librarian in the library.

How am I doing?

- You can check your progress on the ‘Top Ten’ leaderboards in the library. These are updated every term
- Everyone can do well whether it is words read, quizzes passed, percentage progress score
- You can check your own progress using the ‘my progress’ tab when you are signed into Accelerated Reader
- Or look at the books you have read and the scores you achieved on ‘My Bookshelf’

Common problems

I can't find my book on the 'find book page'

- Books in a series such as Percy Jackson, Diary of a Wimpy Kid or Tom Gates will not be found under the series name **- only the book title**

Common problems

I can't find my book on the 'find book page'

Not all books are on Accelerated reader yet, so check at www.arbookfind.co.uk before you start reading