

Accelerated Reader

Accelerated Reader is a fantastic resource for motivating children to read and monitoring their progress and understanding. Every term your child will take a Star Test, which tests their comprehension and reading skills, and vocabulary. From this test, your child will be given a book level range based on their current reading age – the levels range from 0.1 to 13.5. They then go on to select books from that range, read them in school and at home, and take quizzes in school to make sure they are understanding what they're reading. Once they are achieving a minimum of 85% on quizzes at that level, their range will be moved up; if they are finding the books a bit tricky, their range can be lowered to give them some more confidence.

Books also have a points value based on the length and difficulty of the book, which count towards a target which will be set at the beginning of the year and reviewed regularly. Thicker books on higher levels score more points towards that target, but they take longer to read! The children's successes will be celebrated on our reading wall and they will have a clear idea of how they are progressing against their individual target.

The great news is that you can support your child on their AR journey. As you can imagine, the school isn't able to stock every book on the AR list, but they can all be found in or ordered from the public library. If your child has a particular interest or favourite author, or just wants to browse what else is available on their level, you can search for appropriate books at www.arbookfind.co.uk. If you know what you're looking for, use Quick Search, or you can refine the search for the correct AR level and age range using Advanced Search.

Your child can also do quizzes at home. Follow this link to the AR website:

<https://ukhosted79.renlearn.co.uk/6700951/default.aspx>

If your child finds it a bit tricky to read the questions, you can read them or paraphrase them to help them out – the quiz is about whether they understand the book, not the quiz! There are no trick questions, so if they recognise the right answer as something they read in the book, it is likely to be correct. But please don't help them with the answers, however tempting it is – we need to know what they understand by themselves.

Please don't think that using AR means limiting what your child reads. If they want to read a book at home that's on a higher level and do a quiz on it, that's fine! In fact, they can do a quiz on any book on the system, they just need to bring it into school so they have the details of the author and title. Reading a book on a lower level also still counts towards their points score and word count. All reading for pleasure benefits children's vocabulary, understanding and confidence as readers.