

Accelerated Reader FAQ's

What is Accelerated Reader (AR)?

AR is a computer programme that helps teachers manage and monitor student's independent reading practice. The student selects a book at their own level and reads it at their own pace. When finished, the student takes a short quiz on the computer - passing the quiz is an indication that they have understood what has been read.

How can I help a student become a better reader?

As with anything, performance improves with practice. Our research shows children who engage in reading 20 minutes a day with an 85% comprehension rate on AR quizzes see the greatest growth in skill.

What is a STAR Reading™ test?

STAR Reading is an assessment. It has been aligned with the national curriculum to allow teachers to easily track student progress alongside the skills required in the curriculum. It reports in a number of different ways including standardised scores, percentile ranks and scaled scores to help with the transition to assessing without levels. It will also provide you with your students reading levels.

What are Book Levels and how do they relate to a student's ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development)?

Book Levels are the difficulty level of a text. This concept is particularly important in Accelerated Reader, which emphasises that students show the most reading improvement if they regularly practice reading within a range of difficulty that is neither too challenging nor too easy (the ZPD). Accelerated Reader calculates Book Levels using the ATOS™ readability formula.

What are points?

Every book that has an AR Reading Practice Quiz is given a points value. AR points are based on the length of the book (number of words). Students earn points pro-rata to their result on their quizzes.

What is an Interest Level?

The Interest level indicates for which age group a book is appropriate, based on the content and themes. These are recommendations only and teachers and parents are recommended to use their best judgement when guiding pupils towards age appropriate material.

If you require further information, please contact the support team on the details below.