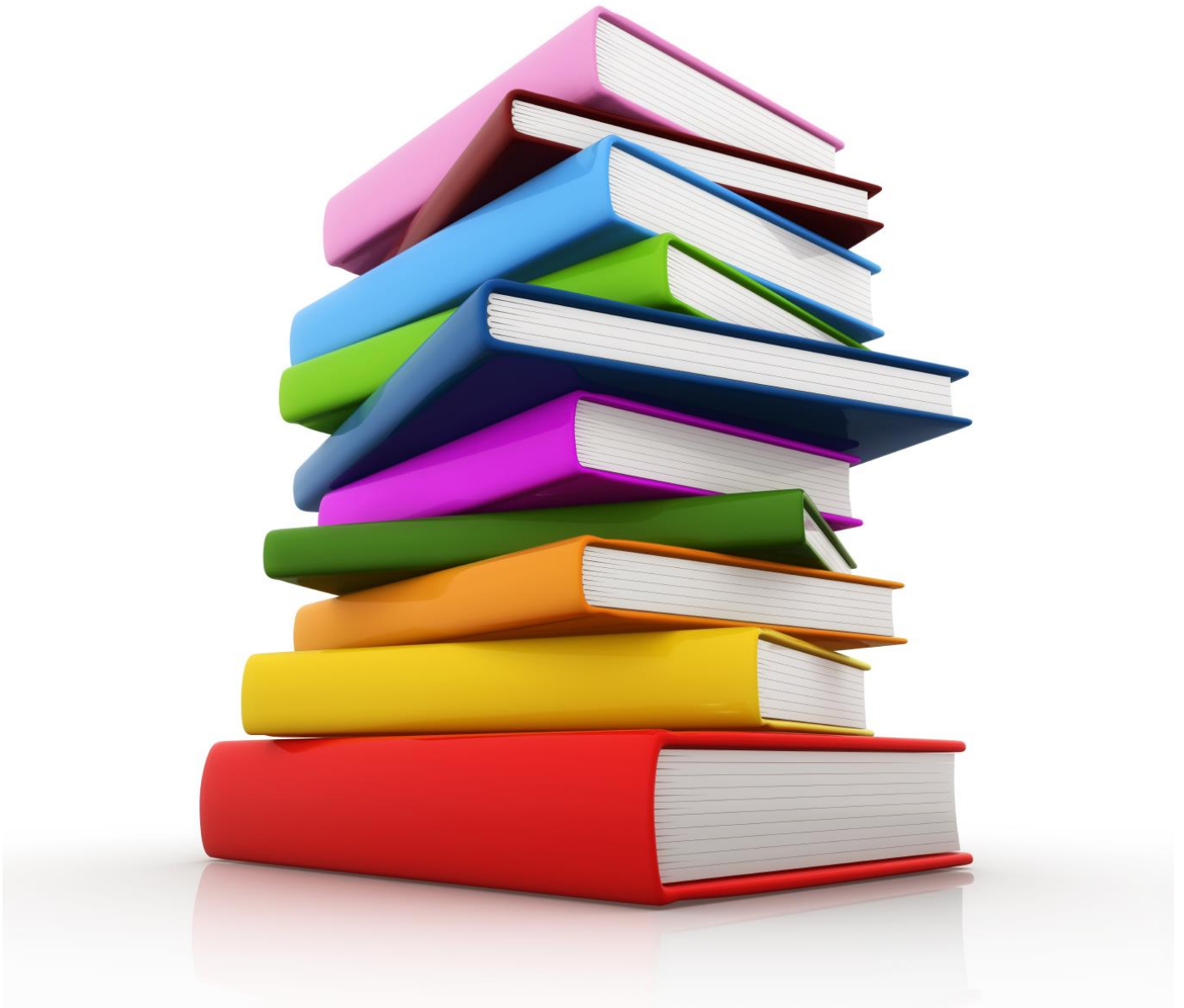


Accelerated Reader



A Guide for Parents

What is Accelerated Reader?

Reading is the starting point to all learning. It is a skill, and as with all skills, it requires both teaching and regular practice. Accelerated Reader is an online system used in thousands of schools worldwide to enable pupils to have personalised reading practice.

How does it work?

Accelerated Reader (AR) enables powerful practice, by providing pupils with personalised targets and monitoring. At the start of the year, pupils complete a simple 10 minute reading test online, which identifies their personalised reading range - called the ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development). This means that children will be reading books that are exactly the right difficulty for them - easy enough to be enjoyable, but hard enough to be challenging.

Pupils can then select any AR labelled book with a level within their ZPD to read. There are over 200,000 books within the AR programme, so there is plenty of choice! It's not a reading scheme - children select their own real books, by top authors in both fiction and non-fiction genres. The school library has a large selection of AR labelled books, but you will find that many of the books you have at home are also on the AR list.

Once they have finished reading, pupils take an online AR quiz to show the comprehension of what they have read. AR provides teachers with a report to show how well they have understood what they have been reading, and what they need to do to improve.

Each book is worth a number of points - depending on how many words the book contains, and how long it will take to read. Teachers set pupils a half termly points target that is appropriate for their reading ability, and pupils can monitor this as the term progresses.

How can I see how my child is getting on?

Your child is able to log on to their AR account at home - they can show you what they have been reading, and how well they have been getting on. Alternatively, you can use the Home Connect system to check this out for yourself! AR has proven very successful for helping pupils of all abilities make rapid progress in their reading.

How will my child be rewarded for success in Accelerated Reader?

Every half term, we have an AR reward assembly to celebrate the successes of a large number of children:

1. **Target Challenge** - all children have a personal target to aim towards - those who achieve their target receive a star award badge and certificate. There are six stars to collect: Bronze, Silver, Gold, Emerald, Ruby and Amethyst.
2. **Word Count Wonders** - AR counts how many words each child has read, and certificates are given for achieving key milestones - these start with 5,000 words and build up to over 3,000,000!
3. **Millionaires Club** - children who manage to read 1,000,000 words or more enter our very own hall of fame!
4. **100% Success** - Each time children take a quiz, they should be aiming to get 100% of the questions correct. When they do, they will be awarded a special 100% certificate immediately!

Last year, every child's achievements in reading were celebrated at least once during our AR assembly!

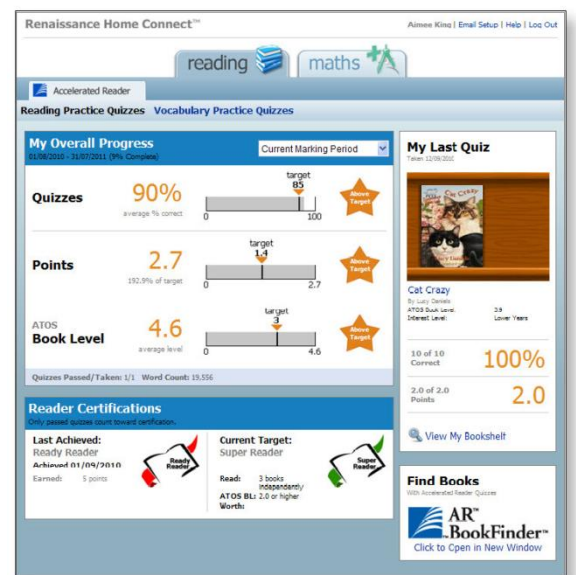


How can parents help?

Progress is always stronger when parents are closely involved in learning - reading is no exception!

The most important way that parents can help support their child's learning, is to make sure that they are reading for at least 20 minutes per day. There will be chance for children to do some of their reading in school, but it is clear that the pupils who read at home during the regular reading homework sessions make much better progress. Please check that your child is reading - you can ask them to read aloud to you, or discuss the book that they are reading with you. This will give them chance to make sure that they understand what they are reading, and help them to get better scores on their quizzes.

You can also support your child by checking on their progress - ask your child to show you their AR page on the internet, or log in yourself at our Home Connect link from the school website (this uses the same password as your child uses at school). You can see which books your child has read, how well they are doing on their quizzes, and how close they are to their personalised targets.



Welcome

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader Bookfinder™

United Kingdom

Searching for Accelerated Reader books is fun and easy with this free online tool.

Please tell us who you are:

- Student
- Parent
- Teacher
- Librarian

Submit



If you are buying your child a book or visiting the public library, please check the AR book list first (accessible from the AR pages on the school website). This will help you select a book that is within your child's ZPD (not too hard, but not too easy!), and they can also complete

the quiz online! Books that fit with pupils' ZPD and are read at home will also count towards their points score and their word count! It doesn't matter if your child sometimes chooses a book that is not on the AR programme as it is always good to read!