

# AR and Home Connect

Information for  
Parents



# What is AR?

- AR stands for Accelerated Reader.
- It is a program designed by Renaissance Place to help students achieve their highest potential in reading skills.



AR is centered around “recreational reading”. It should be used to **GUIDE** students in narrowing down their book choices, but **SHOULD NOT** be the sole factor in choosing books.

Your child's preferences in book selection should be taken into consideration when selecting books within their range.

# How Does AR Work?

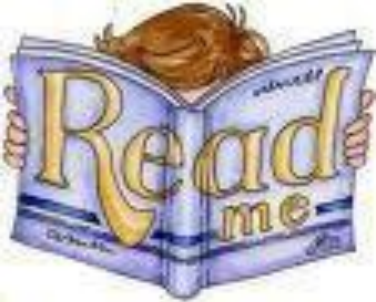
- Students take a STAR reading or STAR Early Literacy test to determine their level and reading range.
- The test is given several times throughout the year.
- A report is created detailing the student's results.
- BOTH teacher and parent will receive a copy of the report(s).



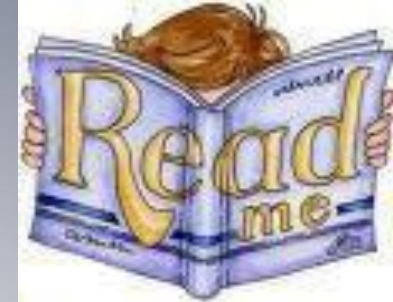


# Please note...

- Star tests are not the only assessment used to judge reading ability and teachers have a final say in assessment results and reading ranges.
- ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development) indicates the range a student can read from minimum to maximum support. Therefore, the higher end of the ZPD should be with teacher/parental support. A student reading independently would be most successful in the low to middle range of the ZPD.
- **Example:** Assume your child's ZPD range is 1.0-1.9. This does not mean that your child should get a book on the higher end of the range (1.7-1.9).
- Your child's teacher will suggest an appropriate range for them to begin, usually on the lower range (1.0-1.5). If the child's quiz results are positive, the teacher will notify you to increase the BL (book level).
- As always if you are not sure, you can always contact your child's teacher.



# AR BookFinder



<http://www.arbookfind.com/>



Home | [English - Español](#) | [About Us](#) | [Help](#)

Student/Parent

[Quick Search](#) | [Advanced Search](#) | [Collections](#)

 **AR BookBag™**

**Enter Keycode**

[Go](#)

You do not need a Keycode to search. However, if your child's teacher gave you a Keycode, enter it here to search the most relevant books for your child.


[You can search for book titles based on authors, topics, or titles of books. Just type what you want to search for in the blank field above and click \*\*Go\*\*. You will then be able to sort your search results, select book titles to add to your AR BookBag, print a list of your search results, or start a new search.](#)

Learn more about how to help your child develop a love for reading.


**A Parent's Guide to AR BookFinder**



Click here to download these FREE AR BookFinder bookmarks!



Click here to download this FREE AR BookFinder poster!



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Link AR BookFinder to your school's Web page

# Selecting an AR Book

Under “Quick Search” type in the TITLE of the book you have selected for your child to read and press GO. For this example we will search for the title Hop on Pop. Notice that I did not include the author, Dr. Seuss.

**IMPORTANT NOTE** Not all books found at your public library are AR books.

You can use [www.arbookfind.com](http://www.arbookfind.com) to find out if a book is considered to be part of the AR program.

The screenshot shows the AR BookFinder website. At the top left is the logo with the text "AR BookFinder". To the right are navigation links: "Home", "English - Español", "About Us", and "Help". Below the logo is a "Student/Parent" section with an "AR BookBag™" icon and a search box. The search box contains the text "hop on pop" and a "Go" button. Below the search box is a section titled "Enter Keycode" with a "Go" button and a message: "You do not need a Keycode to search. However, if your child's teacher gave you a Keycode, enter it here to search the most relevant books for your child." To the right of the search box are tabs for "Quick Search", "Advanced Search", and "Collections". Below the search box is a paragraph of text: "You can search for book titles based on authors, topics, or titles of books. Just type what you want to search for in the blank field above and click Go. You will then be able to sort your search results, select book titles to add to your AR BookBag, print a list of your search results, or start a new search." Below this text is a section titled "Learn more about how to help your child develop a love for reading." with a link "A Parent's Guide to AR BookFinder" and an image of two children reading. At the bottom of the page are two promotional banners. The left banner shows a stack of AR BookFinder bookmarks with the text "Click here to download these FREE AR BookFinder bookmarks!". The right banner shows a poster with the text "Click here to download this FREE AR BookFinder poster!". At the very bottom of the page is the copyright notice: "©2007-2009 Renaissance Learning, Inc. All rights reserved. Link AR BookFinder to your school's Web page".



# Finding the Book Level and AR Quiz number

Book level (BL) and AR Quiz number are very important items to look for.

For this example we have searched for the book Hop on Pop. You will notice that the book level (BL) is a 1.5. If your child's ZPD range (reading range) fits the 1.5 book level (BL) this book would be ideal for them to read and take a quiz on.

If you check a book out from a public library or find that some of the books from your home are AR books, please write down the AR Quiz Number and send it with your child. Without the quiz number a student may not be able to find the quiz.



The screenshot shows the AR BookFinder website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the logo and links for Home, English - Español, About Us, and Help. Below the navigation bar, there are tabs for Student/Parent, Quick Search, Advanced Search, and Collections. The Quick Search tab is active, and the search term "hop on pop" is entered in the search box. The search results show "Title 1 - 1 of 1" and a "Print" button. The search results are sorted by Relevance. The book "Hop on Pop" by Dr. Seuss is displayed with its cover image. The book details include: AR Quiz No. 9023 EN Fiction, IL: LG - BL: 1.5 - AR Pts: 0.5, AR Quiz Types: RP, RV, VP, and a Rating of four stars. A description of the book is provided: "Pairs of rhyming words are introduced and used in simple sentences, such as 'Day, Play. We play all day. Night, Fight. We fight all night.'" There is an "Add to AR BookBag™" button next to the book details. On the left side of the page, there is a sidebar with a search box and a "Go" button. Below the search box, there is a section titled "Refine Your Search" with options for Interest Level (Lower Grades), ATOS Book Level (1.0 - 1.9), Fiction/Nonfiction (Fiction), Language (English), and Topic (Poetry/Rhymes (1), Power Lessons AR (1), Recommended Readin... (1), Series (1)).

## To Find Books in Your Child's ZPD Range:

Log onto [arbookfind.com](http://arbookfind.com)  
Click on **Advanced Search**.

Select the **Interest Level**  
and enter the desired book  
levels (ZPD range).

Click **Go!**

(This list could come in  
handy on a trip to the public  
library or bookstore.)

The screenshot shows the AR BookFinder website interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the AR BookFinder logo and navigation links: Home, English - Español, About Us, and Help. Below the header, there are three tabs: Teacher/Librarian, Quick Search, and Advanced Search (which is selected). The Advanced Search section contains several search criteria:

- Search Method:** Radio buttons for Contains... (selected), Starts With..., and Exact Match...
- Title:** Text input field
- Author:** Text input field
- ISBN:** Text input field
- Quiz Released:** Dropdown menu set to Any Time
- Interest Level:** Dropdown menu set to Lower Grades (LG K-3)
- ATOS Book Level:** Input fields for 1.5 through 1.9, with a Show ATOS 2000 link and a note to select an Interest Level first.
- Additional Criteria:** Three dropdown menus: All Topics, All Subtopics, Fiction and Nonfiction, and English and Spanish.
- Sort:** Dropdown menu set to Title
- Buttons:** Go and Clear Form

On the left side of the Advanced Search section, there is a sidebar with an AR BookBag logo and an Enter Keycode field with a Go button. Below this, a note states: "You do not need a Keycode to search. However, if your child's teacher gave you a Keycode, enter it here to search the most relevant books for your child."



# How You Can Help Your Child

- Look for errors in fluency, skipped words, mispronounced words, and reading comprehension.
- Stop and ask questions about characters, setting, plot etc, every few pages.
- Make time for reading! Students should be reading for a minimum of 20 minutes daily.
- Students must read their book with LITTLE to NO help if they will test and choose "read independently".
- A parent's job is to guide in the reading NOT DO the reading for AR.
- You can and should read aloud to your child but students must choose "read to" if they take a test for a book read to them.

# User Name and Password

- Enter your child's username and password as found on the HOME CONNECT letter that was sent home.
- If the username and password are not working please contact your child's teacher.

Website:

<https://hosted322.renlearn.com/197375/HomeConnect/Login.aspx>



Welcome

Enter student login  
used at school

User Name

Password

Log In

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# Renaissance Home Connect Page

## 2 MAJOR TARGETS TO OBSERVE

Quizzes- tracks quiz results each time a student takes a quiz. The goal is always to reach an average of 80% or better overall within the 6 week grading period.

### Why is Quiz percentage important?

Is a very good indicator of each student's Reading Comprehension. If a student takes a quiz and scores below 80% we must stop and observe why the student scored low.

Points- Each student will have a specific goal to reach set by his or her teacher. They will have 6 weeks to attain the set goal. In order to reach the goal the child must read and pass the quiz with an 80% or higher.

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reading

Accelerated Reader

Reading Practice Quizzes Vocabulary Practice Quizzes

### My Overall Progress

8/18/2009 - 8/16/2010 (65% Complete) Current Marking Period

**Quizzes** 79.3% average % correct goal 85 Below Goal

**Points** 22.7 goal 85 Below Goal

**ATOS Book Level** 2.6 average level No Goal Set

Quizzes Passed/Taken: 51/56 Word Count: 51,129

### Reader Certifications

Only passed quizzes count toward certification.

**Last Achieved:** None **Current Goal:** No Goal Set

### My Last Quiz

Taken 4/9/2010

**Moonbear's Pet**  
By Frank Asch  
ATOS Book Level: 2.5  
Interest Level: Lower Grades

5 of 5 Correct **100%**

0.5 of 0.5 Points **0.5**

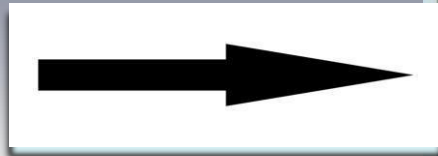
[View My Bookshelf](#)

### Find Books

With Accelerated Reader Quizzes

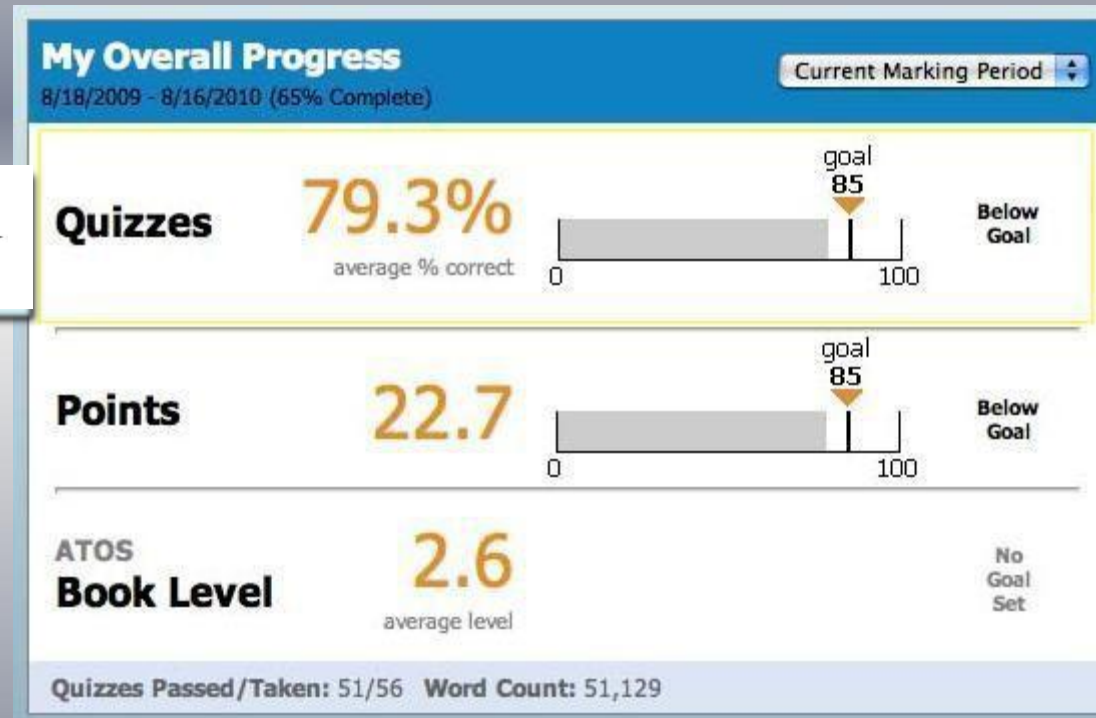
[Click to Open in New Window](#)

# Remember...



The percentage next to quizzes is the **MOST** important part.

Your child must have an average of 80% or higher or they will be considered "below goal".



# Keeping Track of Each Book Read

To the right of the quiz and points scales you can find a section titled **MY LAST QUIZ**.

Take a moment to observe the information in this quadrant as it provides book and quiz results for the most current quiz taken by the student.

Look for the magnifying glass and title **VIEW MY BOOKSHELF** and click on it.

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reading

Accelerated Reader

Reading Practice Quizzes Vocabulary Practice Quizzes

### My Overall Progress

8/18/2009 - 8/16/2010 (65% Complete) Current Marking Period

<b>Quizzes</b>	<b>79.3%</b>	goal 85	Below Goal
average % correct		0 100	

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<b>Points</b>	<b>22.7</b>	goal 85	Below Goal
		0 100	

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<b>ATOS Book Level</b>	<b>2.6</b>	No Goal Set
average level		

Quizzes Passed/Taken: 51/56 Word Count: 51,129

### Reader Certifications

Only passed quizzes count toward certification.

<b>Last Achieved:</b> None	<b>Current Goal:</b> No Goal Set
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### My Last Quiz

Taken 4/9/2010

**Moonbear's Pet**  
By Frank Asch  
ATOS Book Level: 2.5  
Interest Level: Lower Grades

5 of 5 Correct	<b>100%</b>
0.5 of 0.5 Points	<b>0.5</b>

View My Bookshelf

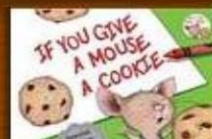
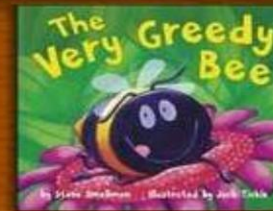
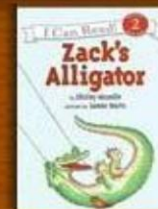
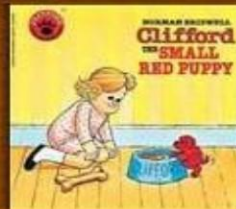
### Find Books

With Accelerated Reader Quizzes

Click to Open in New Window

## My Reading Practice Quizzes

Page 1 of 3



This is your child's own personal library for each book that they have read and taken a quiz on. If you click on any book cover it will take you to a new page which lists all the details: when the quiz was taken, points earned, book level, etc.



# Recap

- Students will read at least 20 minutes a day.
- During AR, students will read an AR book that is on their optimal comprehension level.
- Students will take tests and earn points to see if they are on track with their reading.
- Students will pick books they enjoy reading.