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.
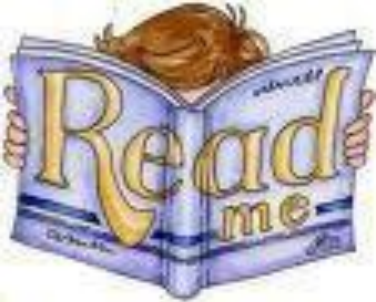
How Does AR Work?

- 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.

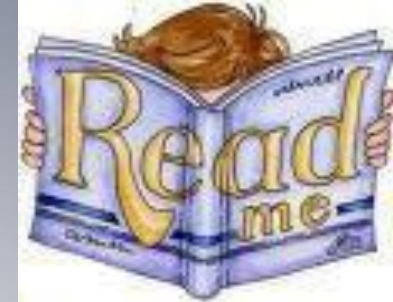- BOTH teacher and parent will receive a copy of the report(s).

Use your child's ZPD range found on the parent report to help select "just right" books.

GE	PR	PR Range	Below Average	Average 50	Above Average	IRL	ZPD
1.5						PP	1.5-2.5

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/

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 to find out if a book is considered to be part of the AR program.

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.

To Find Books in Your Child's ZPD Range:

Log onto 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.)

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 <u>minimum</u> 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 **<u>NOT DO</u>** 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.

Renaissance Home Connect™

Website:

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

Welcome

Enter student login used at school

User Name [ ]

Password [ ]

[Log In]

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.

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".

My Overall Progress
8/18/2009 - 8/16/2010 (65% Complete)

Current Marking Period

Quizzes 79.3%
average % correct

goal 85
Below Goal
0   100

Points 22.7

goal 85
Below Goal
0   100

ATOS Book Level 2.6
average level

No Goal Set

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

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.

Renaissance Home Connect™

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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
0   100

Points   22.7
goal 85
Below Goal
0   100

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

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

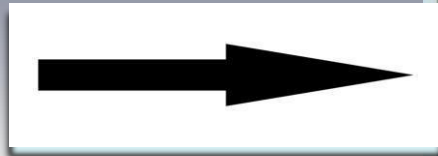5 of 5 Correct   100%

0.5 of 0.5 Points   0.5

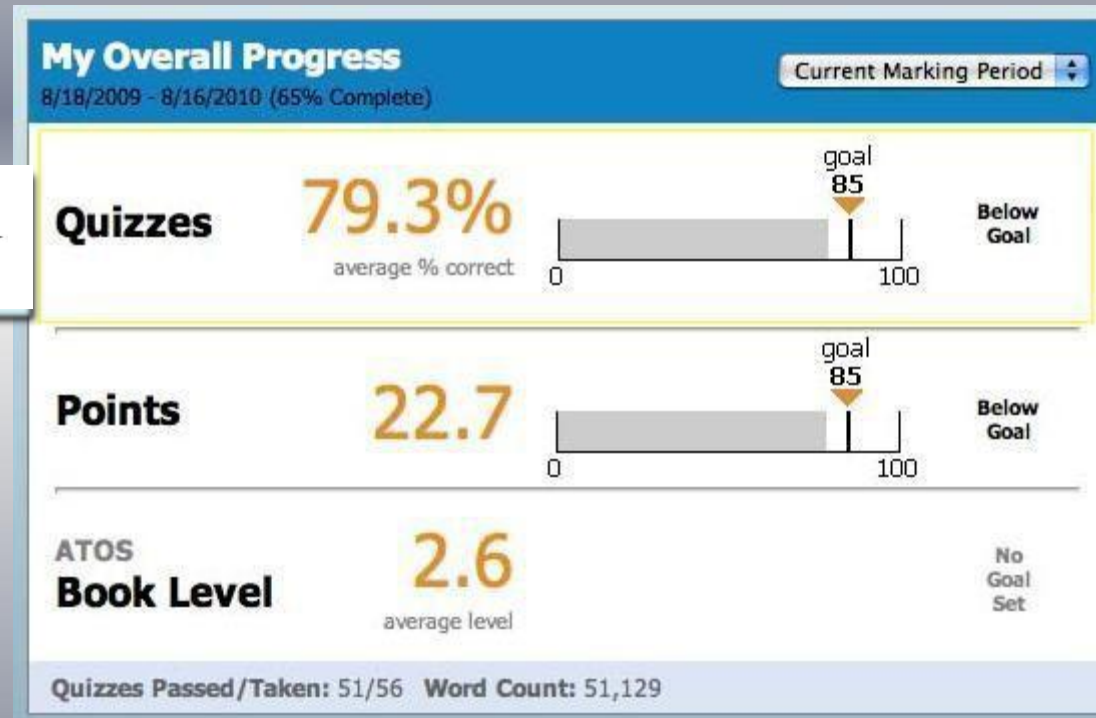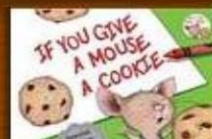🔍 View My Bookshelf
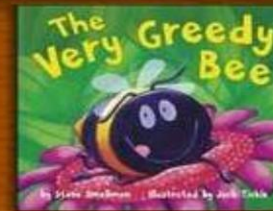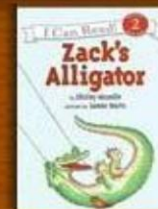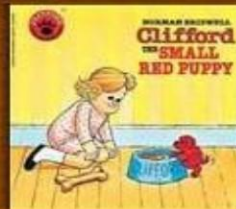
Find Books
With Accelerated Reader Quizzes

AR™ BookFinder™
Click to Open in New Window

My Bookshelf

My Reading Practice Quizzes

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.