Accelerated Reader

What is Accelerated Reader?

Accelerated Reader (AR) is a computer program that helps teachers manage and monitor children's independent reading practice. Your child picks a book at his/her own level and reads it at his/her own pace. When finished, your child takes a short quiz on the computer - passing the quiz is an indication that your child has understood what has been read. AR gives both children and teachers feedback based on the quiz results which the teacher then uses to help the child set targets and ongoing reading practice.

Introduction to the Program

STAR Reading

A computer-adaptive reading test used to assess pupils' reading ability and to determine their recommended reading levels for Accelerated Reader. Measures growth over time.

Accelerated Reader

A database of a quizzes to test comprehension of books read. Provides instant feedback and monitoring.

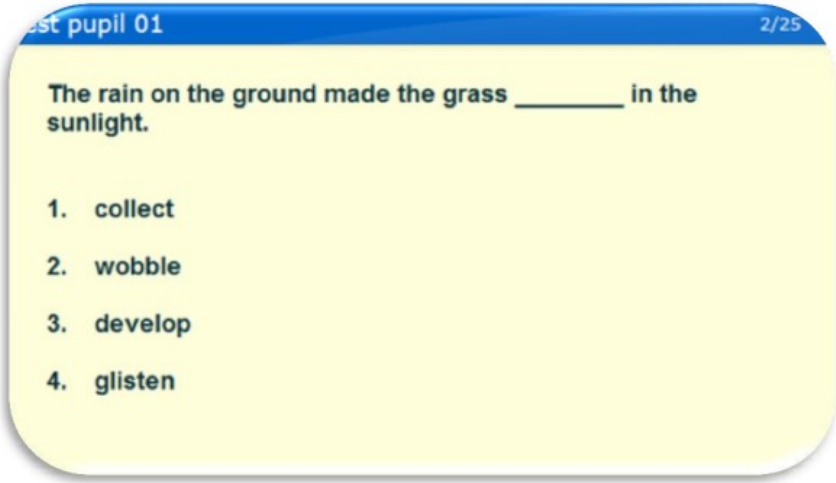
Taking a Test

Accelerated Reader Advantage

10 minutes to take

Starting point for AR Formative Assessment

Measures growth and progress



Computer adaptive

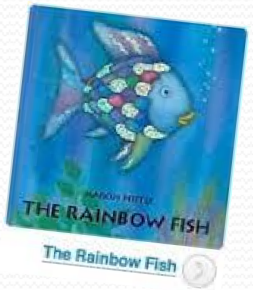
Provides real-time data

Reading Ages

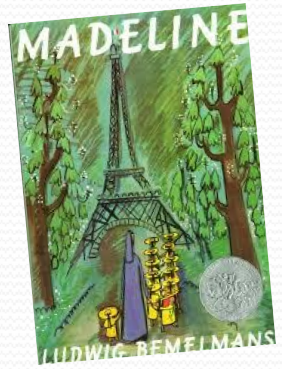
National Curriculum Levels

ZPD's

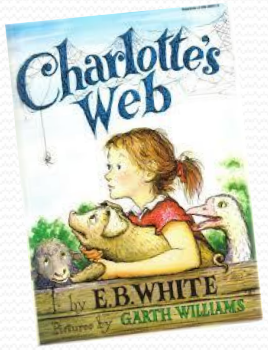
Renaissance Learning

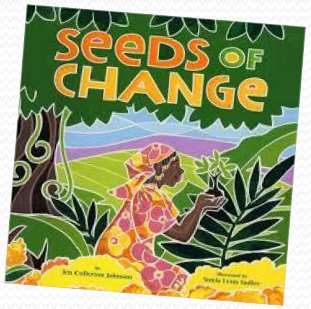


Taking a test



In most cases, children really enjoy taking the quizzes. Since they are reading books at their own reading and interest levels, they are likely to be successful. This is satisfying for most children. Best of all they learn and grow at their own pace.



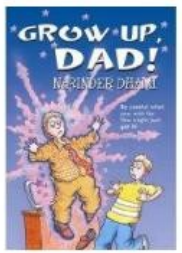


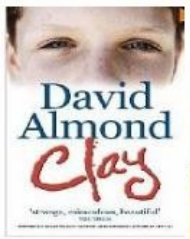
AR Books and ZPD

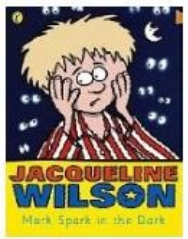
AR Books – Each quizzed book has a book level which represents the difficulty of text

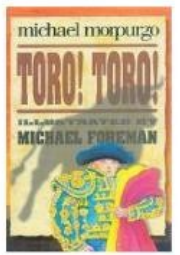
ZPD - An individual range of book levels recommended for each pupil's reading ability

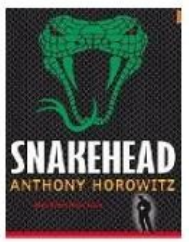
Too Easy	ZPD: Just Right				Too Hard
2.8	3.2	3.8	4.4	5.0	5.4











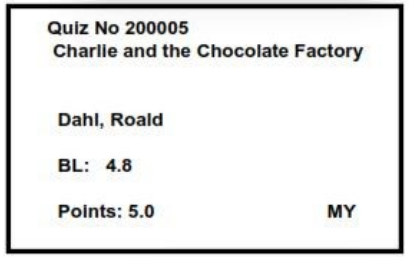
Renaissance Learning

We have invested time and effort re-labelling and organising our reading books in school to facilitate this reading program.

Class teachers assist children in finding a suitable book at their ZPD level.

Accelerated Reader

- Pupils select books appropriate for their individual reading level and interests (using ZPD from STAR Test)
- Books are labeled in the following ways to help guide choices:
- **Book Level:** The difficulty of text (0.5 - 13.5) Pupils are recommended to read from the beginning of their ZPD
- **Interest Level:** Relates to the content and appropriateness Lower, Middle and Upper Years
- **Points:** Refers to length and the number of words within a book



Renaissance Learning

Taking a Quiz

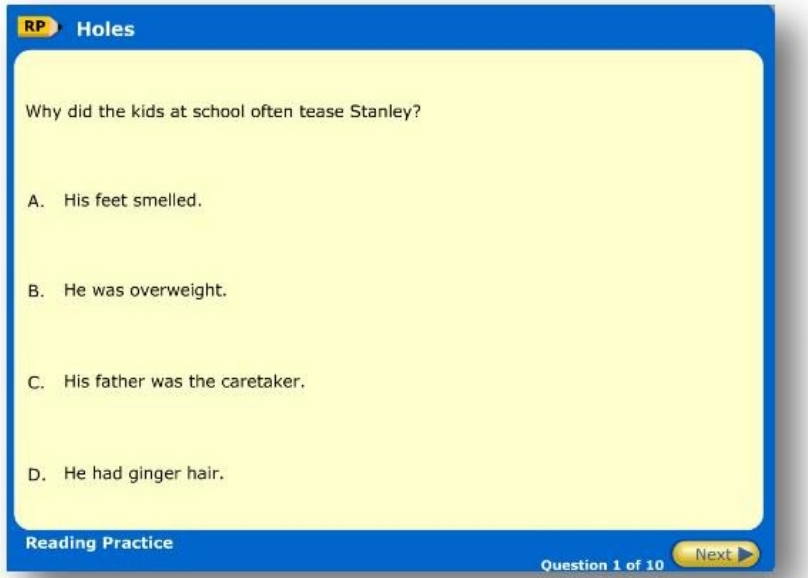
Accelerated Reader™ Advantage

Quiz within 24 hours

Multiple choice questions

Earn points depending score

Teacher monitoring average percent correct



TOPS Report

Reading Practice tests comprehension

Vocabulary Practice reinforces words encountered

Literacy Skills for higher order thinking

Renaissance Learning

Why are we using Accelerated Reader?

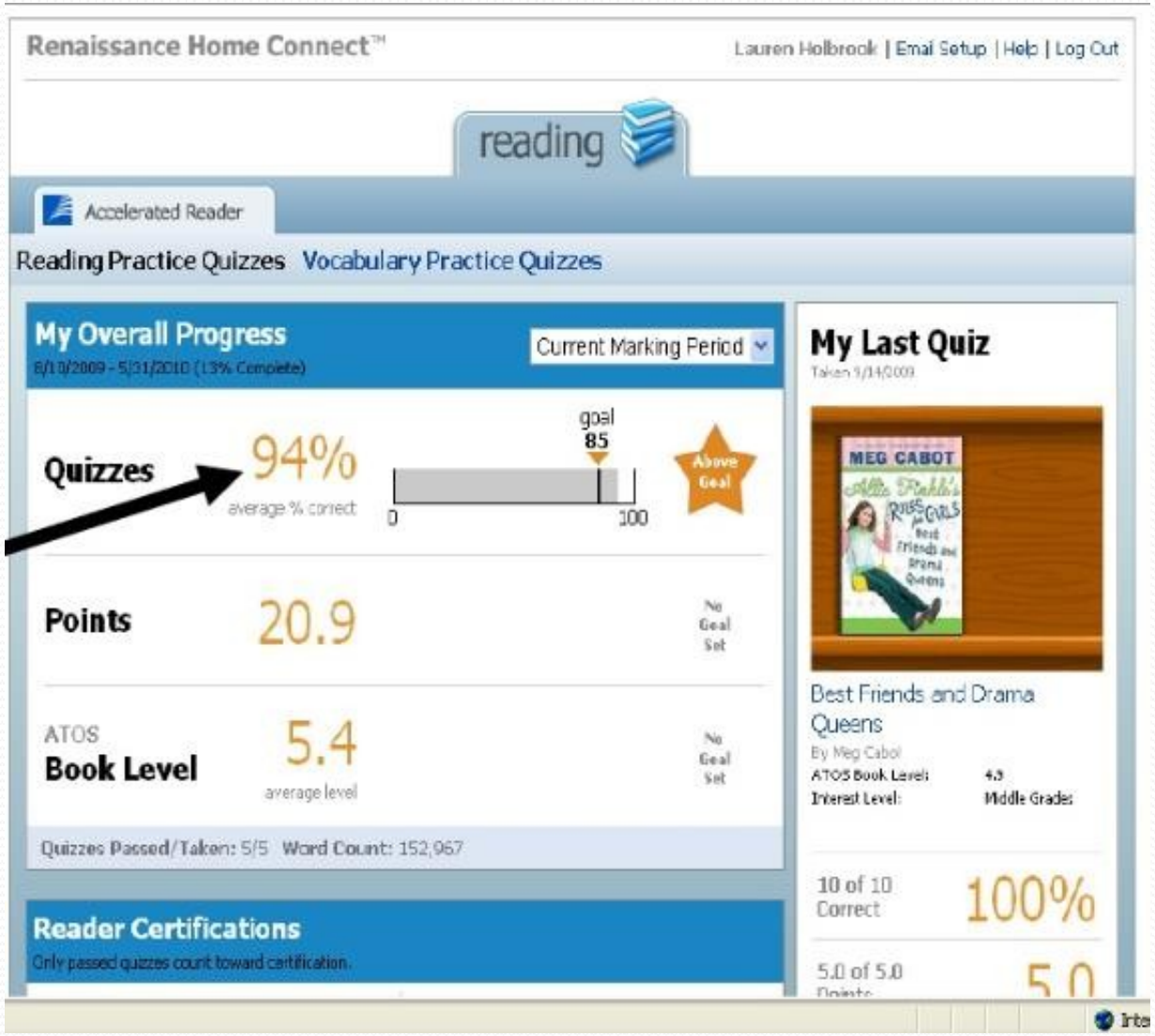
- Accelerated Reader helps all children become better readers from pupils with special needs to those who are gifted and talented.
- Accelerated Reader encourages children to read for at least thirty minutes each day and rewards effort and achievement.
- When children read books at their appropriate level they experience success and grow in confidence and reading stamina.
- The teachers work with children to set appropriate targets based on each child's reading ability.

Where are we up to?

- Children will take the star reading test at the start of the year (on the computer) so teachers know the pupils' ideal reading level. This is the ZPD range. This is then monitored throughout the year.
- Children will choose their reading books according to their ZPD range.
- Your child's ZPD range will be stuck in their reading record.

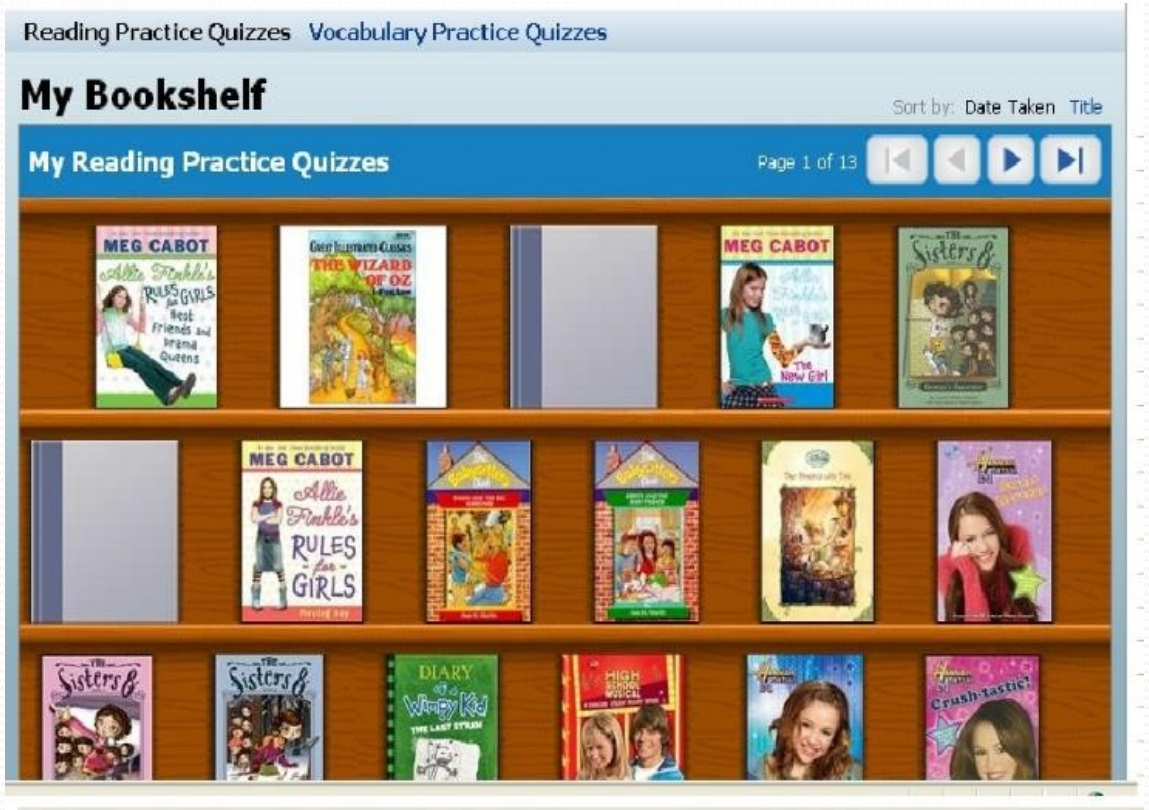
Tracking progress

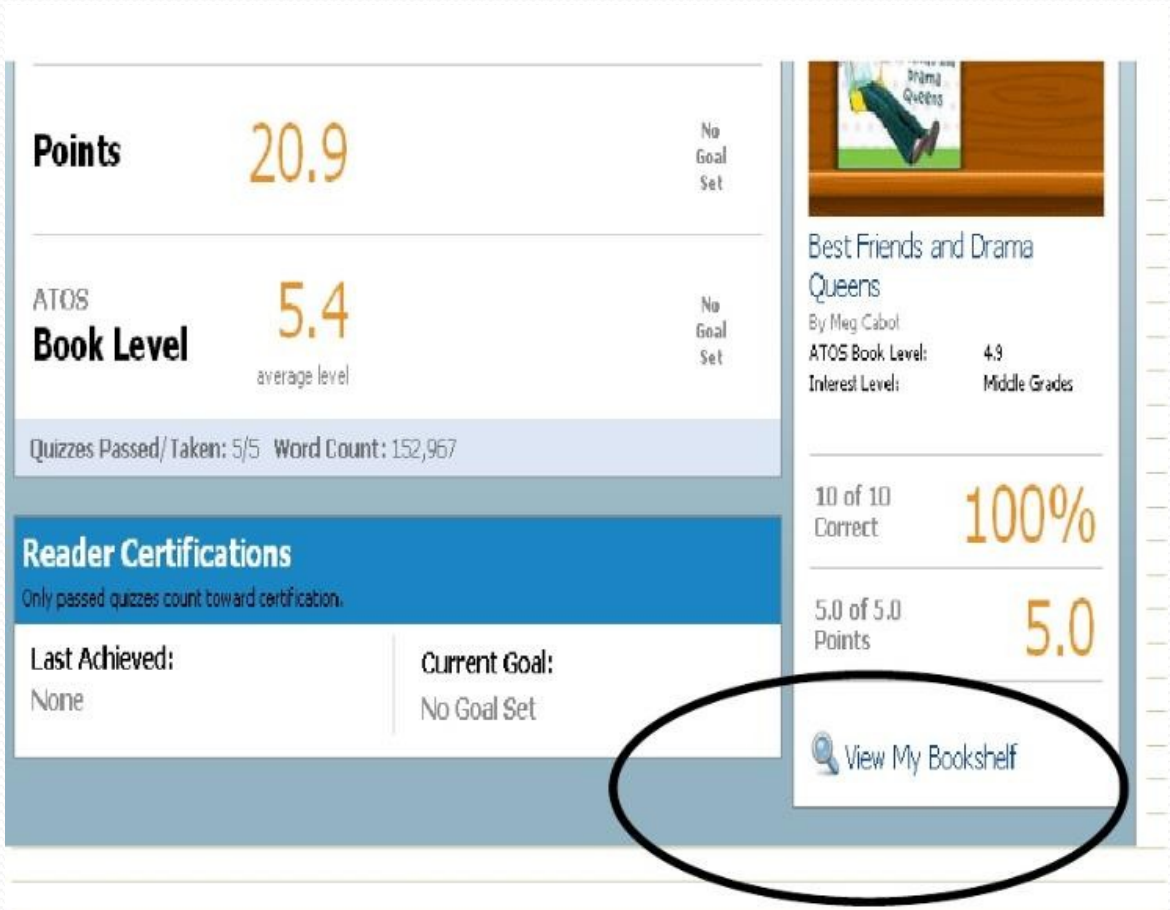
We would like children to achieve **85%** of their target based on at least thirty minutes of reading each day



Monitoring Progress

Children can see what books they have read and how they did. The programme also gives them suggestions on what to read next based on their interest and ability. Children see a sunflower or graph, depending on their year group, which builds up as they pass quizzes.





They can also see how many points they have acquired and what their total word count is. The children have to pass the quiz in order to get the word count.

"You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax, all you need is a book."

Reading everyday!

- According to Renaissance Learning's research, children who read at least 20 minutes a day with a 90% comprehension rate on AR quizzes see the greatest gains.

- Therefore, your child should have at least 20 minutes set aside for reading during day.

How can you help your child to be a better reader?

- Encourage your child to read at home every day because they will get better at reading if they practice.
- Create a culture of reading in your household by reading with your child, having a collection of books at home, visiting your local library or bookshop regularly and by letting your child see you reading.
- When reading with your child stop and ask them questions about the text to be sure your child is understanding what they have read.
- Try to regularly discuss books that everyone in your family is reading or has read.

How does my child's ZPD compare with their peers?

Please try not to compare your child's ZPD with that of other children. Your child is reading at a ZPD that is appropriate for where they need to be. Each child is an individual, with individual needs, capabilities, interests and abilities and Accelerated Reader caters for this. Your class teacher will inform you at parents evening if your child is working at an age appropriate level.

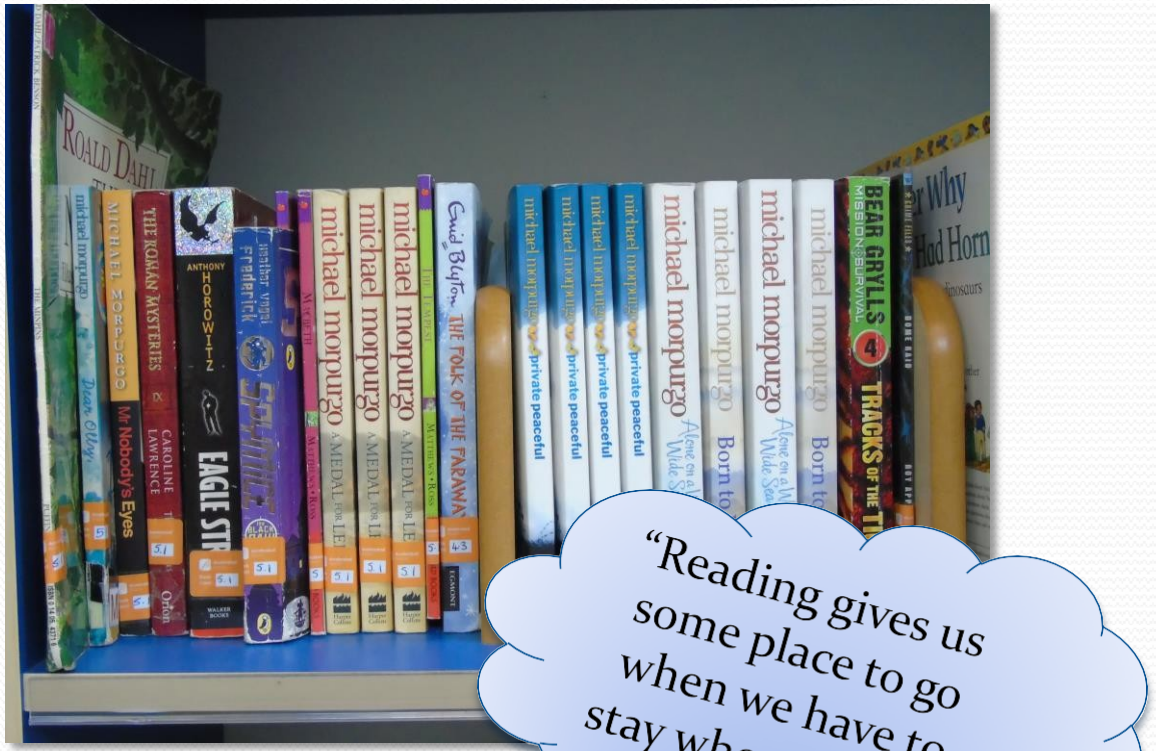
Does the ZPD range relate to National Curriculum expectations?

Yes the ZPD Range links to national curriculum expectations and you will be informed at Parents evening if your child is on track to meet age related expectations.

Why is my child's ZPD range so wide or narrow?

This depend on skills your child has mastered and skills they need to develop. The ZPD will broaden as your child becomes secure with a skill, be that decoding, word recognition, inferring what will happen next or retrieving information from the text.

We wish you and your child lots of success with Accelerated Reader.



If you have any questions please speak to your child's class teacher or to our English subject leader, Miss Young.