



Accelerated Reader

Policy

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Accelerated Reader Policy 2021-2022

Reading transports curious minds to wondrous realms of the imagination. It determines success not only in the classroom, but in life. Highly popular and successful for over 25 years, Accelerated Reader (AR) is a powerful tool for monitoring and managing independent reading practise.

AR is supported by scientifically-based research. An extensive body of research confirms the effectiveness of Accelerated Reader and best classroom practices in helping educators dramatically improve student reading skills. The research consistently demonstrates that Accelerated Reader enables teachers to target instruction and accelerate reading growth for students of all ability levels.

AR now has a redesigned student interface with improved navigation and tablet compatibility and has the ability to:

- Personalise and guide independent reading practice.
- Develop lifelong readers and learners.
- Tap into unlimited access to all quizzes and enjoy online support.

The 5 steps to reading success

It's all about practise. AR encourages substantial differentiated reading practise to create strong readers. Based on each student's independent reading level, AR helps teachers set personalised goals for each student, and guide students to books that are difficult enough to keep them challenged, but not so difficult as to cause frustration.

In addition, AR helps teachers monitor students' vocabulary growth, literacy skills development, and other reading skills.

1. **Determine reading level.** First, a student's optimal reading level is determined through the STAR Reading Enterprise assessment. This assessment suggests a range of book levels for each student called the "zone of proximal development", or ZPD. Children should begin reading books that have a level at the lower end of their ZPD and gradually move up the range in order to make optimum progress.
2. **Set practice goals.** Teachers support children to set individualised reading practice goals based on reading quantity, quality, and difficulty and they can then monitor progress toward those goals.
3. **Personalised practice.** Personalised reading practice means students read books of interest at their own reading level. AR BookFinder makes it easy to find the perfect book.
4. **Students take an AR Quiz.** AR offers more than 150,000 quizzes of three types on both fiction and nonfiction titles. Students have many different options for taking AR Quizzes, including laptops, PCs, tablets, and Surface Gos, as well as through the AR Student App available on Apple® devices.
5. **Receive instant feedback.** AR provides teachers with immediate information, helping them monitor the comprehension skills of each student and inform further instruction or intervention.



The following guidelines will govern the AR Program at Bratton Fleming Community Primary School:

- Students will complete a STAR Reader assessment once every half-term. Where required, students may complete additional STAR Reader tests to inform other forms of teacher assessment or to update/ clarify reading levels and ZPD range for AR books.
- All students must log in using their own passwords and key in their own answers.
- Each student should be reading on their ZPD, or reading level, as determined by the STAR Reading assessment.
- Diagnostic reports from STAR Reader assessment will be used by teachers to inform individual reading requirements and targets.
- TOPS reports after each AR test will be utilised to initiate discussion between teacher and student to reflect on progress and reading targets.
- AR tests are taken at school during school hours. Children must quiz 24 hours after completing the text they have chosen.
- AR performance reports will be produced every Friday and distributed to each Team for monitoring and analysis purposes.
- Rewards within AR – Who can Read a Million words, children that do this receive a certificate. Each time a child quizzes and passes with 100% they receive a certificate. When children have read 25 books they get a bronze reading badge, 50 books is a silver reading badge and 75 books is a gold reading badge.
- Progress reports will be produced for each student to inform teacher assessment and possible interventions following completion of each STAR Reader assessment.