

Accelerated Reading

What is Accelerated Reading (AR)?

AR is a computer program that helps teachers manage and monitor children's independent reading practice

How does the school determine my child's reading level?

- At the beginning of every academic year your child will take a 'STAR' reading test which is a reading assessment program using multiple choice questions. A diagnostic report is generated that provides useful information for teachers and parents

What information is gained from the diagnostic tests?

- Each test generates a diagnostic report.
- A copy of this will be given to parents.
- Some of the information is more relevant to teachers than parents!
- The most relevant to parents are; the National Curriculum level, the reading age and the ZPD.
- Remember, this is one test on one day, we always use teacher intuition to guide us as well.

What is a Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD)?

- In terms of AR, ZPD is the range of books that will challenge your child without causing frustration or loss of motivation.
- Each child is made aware of their ZPD following the Star Reading Test. They then are guided to select books within their range.
- Initially, they choose books from the beginning of the range.

How do we assess your child's understanding of the books?

- AR includes several types of quizzes designed to support the development of reading skills.
- After reading a book, your child will take a short quiz in school using an Ipad.
- A score will be generated and logged by the AR program.
- Children gain points towards their target.
- When the children achieve their target they receive an award.
- Your child's ZPD will be reviewed periodically.

How Can You Support at Home?

- Encourage your child to read every day, even on the days when their school reading book does not come home
- Read a book to your child
- Talk about the books they are reading
- When choosing books to read with your child use the AR Book finder website to find books within their ZPD
- <http://www.arbookfind.co.uk/UserType.aspx>