



Accelerated Reader

Parent information session



STARTM
Reading



Accelerated
Reader



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What is Accelerated Reader?

Accelerated Reader is a program that helps teachers and parents manage and monitor children's independent reading practice. Your child picks a book at his/her own level, reads it and when finished, takes a short quiz on a computer. Passing the quiz is an indication that your child has understood what has been read. AR gives children, parents and teachers feedback based on the quiz results which then informs and helps the child's development within reading.

The aims behind accelerated reader are clear:

1. To match children with books that are appropriate,
2. To encourage children to read more and enjoy reading,
3. To drastically improve children's reading ability.



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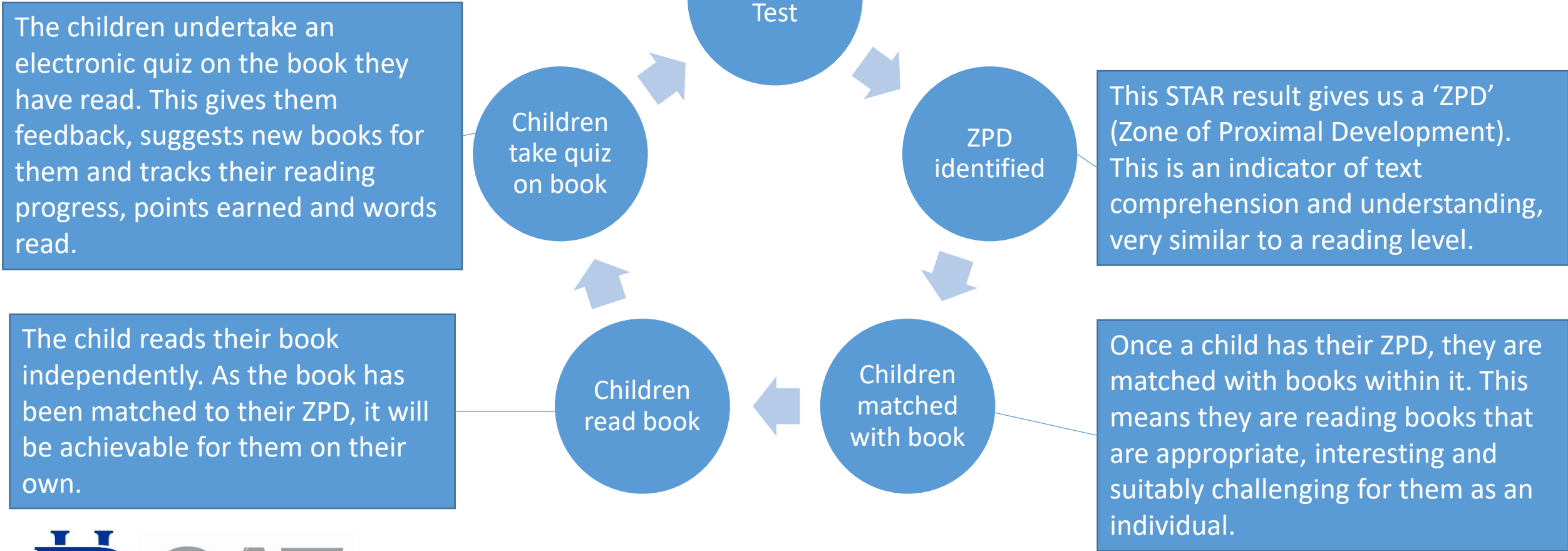


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How does it work?

The Accelerated Reader cycle of reading



Initial Star Test

STAR tests are electronic tests which assess, benchmark and monitor children's ability within reading

Yusuf was surprised at the absolute quiet around him; students were making impressive efforts to avoid disturbing others. The library was unusually crowded for lunchtime, a side effect of everyone's exam preparation. Yusuf found a place at a table, opened his maths book and removed an envelope he'd tucked inside. Deciding it was time to face his fear, Yusuf opened the envelope. The first sentence of the letter extended congratulations on his acceptance to the university. Yusuf struggled to contain his excitement.

How does the setting influence the story?

- 1 It allows Yusuf to share his joy with his peers.
- 2 It gives Yusuf the courage to face his fears.
- 3 It affects the way Yusuf reacts to good news.

These tests are simple for the children to undertake and assess a range of reading indicators. For example, they will focus on sentence and word recognition, as well as context understanding. As the tests progress they increase in complexity and move towards larger sections of text. The children have to read the text and then answer questions on areas such as themes, influence, inference and deduction based on what has been read. The tests are extremely effective at monitoring children's overall reading ability, based on a range of key indicating factors.



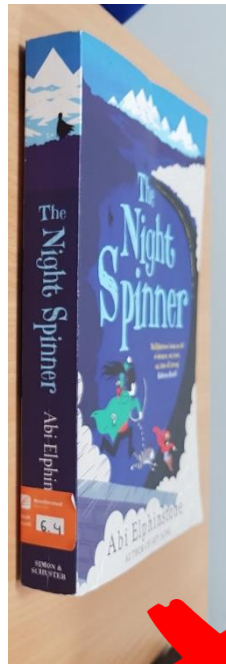
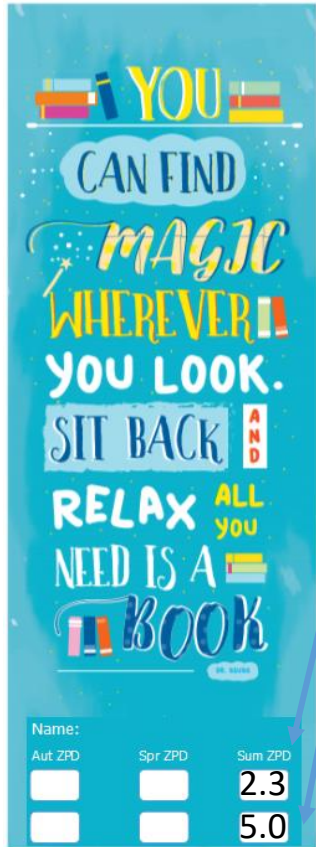
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ZPD identified

Once the STAR test has been completed the child is assigned their ZPD – Zone of Proximal Development

The children have been given a bookmark each with their ZPD levels on. This informs their book choice.



Working with books that are too hard results in frustration. Working with books that are too easy does little to improve skills and leads to boredom. The ZPD represents the level of difficulty that is neither too hard nor too easy, and is the level at which optimal learning takes place. The ZPD is two numbers that the student uses to choose their next reading book.

The lowest number is the lowest level of book the student should be choosing. The highest number is the highest level of book the student should be choosing.

Students keep a record of the ZPD of the book they are reading in their reading record books.



Now a child has their ZPD they select a book based on this

BELOW ZPD Comfort Zone	LOWER ZPD Exploration Zone	UPPER ZPD Deep Dive	ABOVE ZPD Read Together
 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This is an easier read, perfect for reading at home or on holiday• Maybe it's part of a series you enjoy or is by an author you really like• Ask your teacher first	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Go wild and try something new!• Explore new genres, authors and book lengths• Challenge yourself if you can	 <p>Plan ahead:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Choose a book you are excited about✓ Pick a shorter book first✓ Make notes as you read – remember the 5Ws!✓ Ask your teacher for advice	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This is a challenging read• Who would enjoy reading this book with you?<ul style="list-style-type: none">- A parent?- An older sibling?- A friend?• Ask your teacher first



Children
read
book

The child reads their book



Children will be given daily reading time within the school day to read their book. This should also be reinforced with reading time at home.



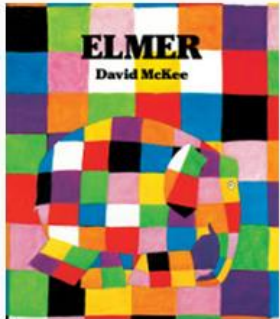
Ideally, 20 minutes minimum daily reading at home is the optimum time to really enhance and support your child's reading progress. This should be logged within your child's reading record book.

Not only will this 20 minutes support reading progression, when twinned with the daily reading in school it will enable your child to read more books and gain a much broader reading experience.



Children take quiz on book

When the child has finished their book they undertake a quiz on it within the Accelerated Reader programme



Elmer
by David McKee

Quiz: 208729 EN Level: 3.2 LY Points: 0.5

Elmer the elephant, a colourful character because of his patchwork hide and sense of humour, tries to blend in with the herd, but soon realises that he's happiest just being himself.

You did not pass this quiz

1 of 3 correct. You needed 2 to pass.

% Correct

34

Points

0

Words Read

0



Accelerated
Reader

View sample
reports and
Reading Dashboard
data

What quiz type did I take?
Reading practice

How did I read this book?
I read by myself

My rating:

Very Good ★★★★★

When the child has finished reading their book they can use the daily reading time within school to undertake the Accelerated Reader quiz for that book.

These quizzes will be undertaken on the iPads within classes and consist of questions which assess the child's understanding of the book which has been read. They will also be asked to rate the book out of 4 stars, based on whether they enjoyed it or not and will then be given feedback on how well they understood and engaged with the book.

It is important to undertake the quiz soon after finishing the book so the content and understanding is still fresh in the child's mind.



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What next?

Children continue to read books within their ZPD range, this is then reassessed using the STAR test

Reading Practice

Date	No.	Title
24/05/2019	231724	The Myste
22/05/2019	220325	Dolphin Sc
18/05/2019	229882	First Class
10/05/2019	226731	Murder Mc
07/05/2019	231033	Pax
02/05/2019	224727	The Victo
28/04/2019	225949	Rooftoppe

Quizzes Passed/Taken: 7/7

Literacy Skills

There are no quizzes for this st

Vocabulary Practice

There are no quizzes for this st

Star Reading Scores
 SS: 783 (Scaled Score) ■ Above Benchmark

PR: 89 (Percentile Rank)

PR Range: 80 - 93

Reading Age: 12:02

NRSS: 118

SGP: 17

Domain Scores

Comprehension
 Vocabulary: 96
 Understanding and Interpreting Texts: 96
 Engaging and Responding to Texts: 96

Word Reading
 Word Recognition: 99

Reading Recommendation
 ZPD: 4.3-7.1 (Zone of Proximal Development)

Questions	Points		ATOS BL
	% Earned	Poss.	
90.0	4.5	5.0	5.3
90.0	9.0	10.0	6.6
80.0	7.2	9.0	5.7
90.0	8.1	9.0	5.8
90.0	7.2	8.0	5.3
80.0	4.8	6.0	6.0
70.0	4.2	6.0	3.5
84.3	45.0	53.0	5.6*

Children continue to read books within the ZPD range. The review scores they give each book help to inform other children whether or not they will like the book or not, very similar to a review system on Amazon.

For each quiz the children undertake there are points to be won! Children collect the points and try to hit half termly and termly targets set by the teacher.

It also monitors a child's word reading level, tracking how many words the child has read by the amount of books they have worked through. Can your child become a word millionaire?



Is the accelerated reader book the only book my child will be reading?

Not at all. Accelerated Reader books will be changed as and when children finish them, however it is also paramount that children have a secondary book they read for pleasure. This can be the child's choice of text such as fiction, non fiction etc.

Can we do the Accelerated Reader quizzes at home?

We would rather you didn't as to gain a true reflection of the child's learning the test ideally needs to be done completely independently and relating to a book that has been read independently. We would much rather you support your child's reading at home by actively reading with them or listening to them read.

Do children have to work through their ZPD range in chronological order?

There is absolutely no need for children to work through their ZPD range in order (2.9, 3.0, 3.1 etc.) As referred to on slide 6, as long as a book is within the child's ZPD range, it will be a suitably challenging read.



Are all books on Accelerated Reader?

There are literally tens of thousands of books on Accelerated Reader, including virtually all new releases in the children's market. If a book is not on AR we can request for it to be put on, simply pass the details of the book to the school office and we can make this happen.

How can I keep track of what my child is reading?

Children should note down the books they are reading and the dates when they are read and quizzed in their reading record book. Parent comments are really important in these as they show how your children are being supported at home, as well as how often they are reading outside of school.

I'm worried about my child's ZPD range – should I be?

Just because a child has a lower ZPD range than their peers, it is not necessarily an indicator that they have reading issues. It is an indicator of the most appropriate pitch of text for your child to engage with a book.



Further information and support

Parent's Guide to
Accelerated Reader™

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

RENAISSANCE
LEARNING
www.renaissancelearning.com

Attached to this pack is the Parent's Guide to Accelerated Reader document, published by Renaissance Learning. It covers everything you may wish to know about the program and also highlights further resources and information regarding how you can help your children with their reading at home.



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