

A parent guide to



Accelerated Reader[®]

Westvale Park Primary Academy



‘Ensuring every child has the necessary skills they need to read is an essential component of literacy education. It enables children to not only learn across the curriculum but also to access numerous aspects of daily life, influencing the opportunities that they have available to them in the future.’

Professor Timothy Rasinski, Education Endowment Foundation (2022)

What is Accelerated Reader?

Accelerated Reader (AR) is a computer programme that motivates children to read, and helps teachers manage and monitor a child’s independent reading practice. Children pick a book that falls within their ZPD (book band) level and, when they have finished reading it, take a short quiz on the computer; passing the quiz is an indication that the child has understood what they have read. If they are reading at the recommended level for them, then most children are likely to be successful and enjoy the books and quizzes. Best of all they learn and grow at their own pace.


What are points? What awards can be achieved?

Each book that has an AR reading practice quiz is given a point value. These points are based on the difficulty and length of the book. For example, J. K. Rowling’s ‘Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire’ is worth 32 points, while Roald Dahl’s ‘Fantastic Mr. Fox’ is worth 1 point. Students will earn points depending on how well they do on the quiz. A score of 80% or more is needed to pass a quiz. Children should aim to take a quiz within 2 days of finishing a book. Where possible, children should take quizzes at home. However, there will time in school for children to access quizzes as required. When children reach certain reading milestones, they will receive a certificate, including for becoming a word ‘millionaire’.

Which books have an AR quiz?

There are over 20,000 books, both fiction and non-fiction, with an AR quiz, and many of these are available in classroom book corners. Students are also encouraged to read books they may have at home or have borrowed from the local library. To find out if a book has a quiz, you can visit the AR Bookfinder site at:

www.arbookfind.co.uk



The screenshot shows the 'Accelerated Reader Bookfinder' website. At the top, it says 'RENAISSANCE Accelerated Reader Bookfinder™'. There are navigation links for 'Teacher', 'Quick Search', 'Advanced Search', and 'Collections'. A map of the United Kingdom & Ireland is in the top right. Below the navigation, there is a search bar with a 'Search' button. To the left of the search bar, there is a section for 'Enter Keyword' with a 'Go' button. Below this, there is a note: 'You do not need a Renaissance account to search. However, if your child's teacher gave you a Renaissance, enter it here to access the most relevant results for your child.' Below the search bar, there is a text box with the following text: 'You can search for book titles based on authors, topics or titles of books. Just type what you want to search for in the blank field above and click Search. You will then be able to sort your search results, select book titles to add to your AR BookBag, print a list of your search results or start a new search.'

What ZPD level is my child and how often does it change?

Children take a STAR Reading assessment in school every half-term to track their reading growth. After every assessment, your child's new ZPD level will be stuck into their reading record. The AR Bookfinder website is a great place to find books at your child's current ZPD level. Your child's Accelerated Reader login details can be found stuck into their reading record.

What do book quizzes look like?

AR book quizzes are multiple choice and test children's understanding of what they have read. Here is an example of a question from an AR quiz:

Question 1 of 5

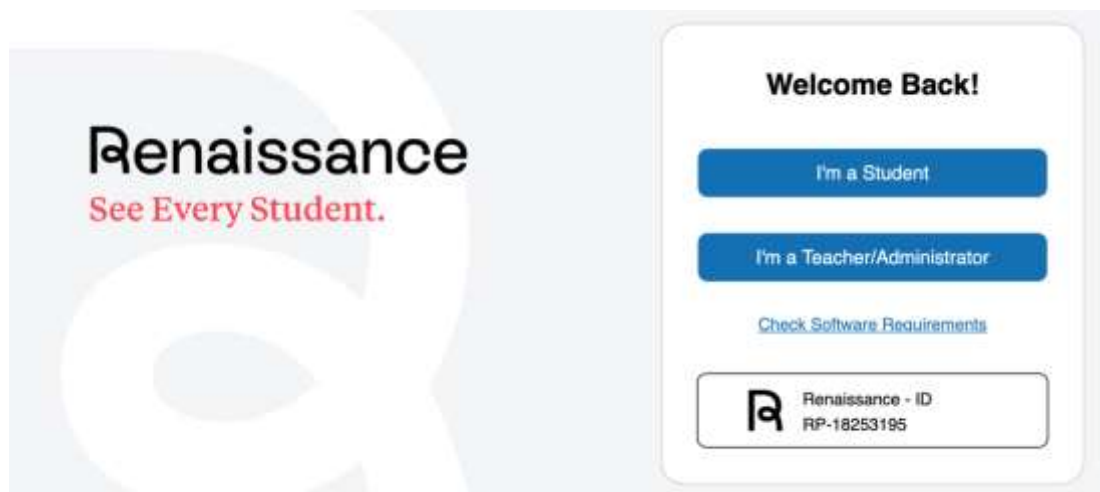
The fox invited the mouse to —.

- ☐ A. have lunch in his underground home
- ☐ B. take a ride on his furry back
- ☐ C. go to a birthday party with him
- ☐ D. go for a swim in the river

How does my child log in to Accelerated Reader?

To take a quiz at home, children must visit the Accelerated Reader website. Please note that every school's AR website address is unique, so you cannot find it via a Google search. To access Accelerated Reader at home, visit: <https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/welcomeportal/8045754>

We highly recommend creating a bookmark in your browser for Accelerated Reader.



Should you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. Happy reading and quizzing!