

Welcome to Accelerated Reader!



All learning starts with reading. Reading is a skill and reading for pleasure is a fantastic habit to have!

Accelerated Reader is a programme which will give you the reading practice you need to succeed AND you get to choose what YOU read!

(You may be familiar with it from Primary school)

You will come to the library for Accelerated Reader:

- * once a fortnight during registration.
- * once a fortnight during an English lesson.

1. Star test!

You will take an online Star Reading test – this will be done in Exam conditions during an English lesson so we get an accurate picture of what your reading level is.



2. Choose a book

Based on your Star Reader Test you will be given a Reading Range – you need to pick a book that falls within this range.

Thousands of books in the library have an Accelerated Reader sticker to help you choose a book.

Not just novels...Graphic Novels, Quick Reads, Non-Fiction too!



3. Reading practice

Accelerated Reader suggest that you can read a whole book in 2 weeks if you are reading at the correct Reading Range and read for 20 minutes a day.

4. Take Quiz

Each fortnight you will take a quiz in the library based on what you have read. They are multiple choice answers and usually have 10 questions.

The pass rate 6/10.

5. Get feedback – and rewards!

You will instantly see the results of your quiz and we will add points for each quiz, plus extra rewards for good progress throughout the year.



Some students last year ...

... increased their reading age by over 4 years!

.... Became reading 'millionaires' by reading a million words.

...went from hating the idea of reading to finding books they LOVED.

Each session in the LRC you should be doing one of 5 things...

... quizzing on a book you have finished

.... returning, renewing or issuing books from
the library

...completing your reading log

...completing a task from the AR 'Bingo card'

.... getting in some reading practice – silently.

Reading range scores (aka ZPD score)

4 – 7

The average for a Y8 student.

Students should progress through their reading range and read books with a higher and higher score.

We always encourage students to read above their reading range!

Extra AR lessons in English

<p>1. Write a book review about your book. This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A summary of what it's about • Your thoughts on what happened/its characters • Details on whether or not you'd recommend it and why • A star rating out of 5 (1 – not good, 5 – brilliant) 	<p>2. Write a letter to the author of your book and include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your thoughts on the book – did you enjoy it? Why? Why not? • What you thought of the ending • Who your favourite character was and why • Who your least favourite character was and why • Would you change anything about the book? Why/why not? • If there was a sequel (a part two) what would you like to see happen? 	<p>3. Design a new book cover and write a blurb for the book. Make it colourful and striking (Fiction).</p> <p>3.1 Imagine you were going to create a website based on the information you've learned. Design the website homepage. Make it colourful and striking. (Non-fiction)</p>	<p>4. Write a diary entry from the perspective of one of the characters in the book. This could be about the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A good day • A bad day • A life changing event • A problem/dilemma • A memory • Another character
<p>5. Write a newspaper article about something that has happened in the book. Remember to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A catchy heading • A topic sentence which outlines some of the 5 Ws (what, where, when, who, why) • Subheadings • Paragraphs 	<p>6. Research the topic further (either online or reading another book) and see what else you can find out. Can you then summarise what new information you've found out in exactly 100-150 words? (Non-fiction only)</p>	<p>7. Write 1-2 PEACE paragraphs (point, evidence, analysis, context, effect) based on how a character, setting or theme is presented in the book. Don't worry about context if you're unsure!</p>	<p>8. Design a new character to feature in your book. As well as drawing it, you should include information about the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic info e.g., name, age. • Its appearance (what it looks like) • Its backstory • Its personality traits
<p>9. Re-write the ending of the book you've just read. Remember to include a range of language and structural techniques e. g., similes, metaphors, personification, adjectives, adverbs, short sentences for dramatic effect, varied paragraph lengths, pathetic fallacy, ambitious vocabulary, punctuation for effect etc.</p>	<p>10. Design a poster based on the key information you've learned about a topic. (Non-fiction only).</p>	<p>11. Write a list of quiz questions based on the book. Make sure your questions require both explicit answers e.g., 'What is the name of the main character' and implicit answers 'What does the quote "...." suggest about the main character?' (Fiction)</p> <p>11.1 Write a quiz based on the information you've learned. Can you then test a friend to see what they know? Or test yourself to see what you can remember? (Non-fiction)</p>	<p>12. Write the opening to a follow-up book based on what you've just read. What happens next? Remember to include a range of sentence openers and structures to engage your reader as well as use other language and structural techniques.</p>

Feedback and rewards

- Star tests are taken 3 times throughout the year – September, January and July.
- Library staff awards points for taking and passing quizzes.
- Take a quiz – 1 point!
- Take a quiz and pass – 3 points!
- League table of Word Counts – who has the highest word count?

Feedback and rewards

Students who are not engaging:

- Students can complete a Book Recommendation form and a library staff member will select a book for them.
- Library staff will have a brief 1-1 meeting with a student and chat about why they aren't engaging with AR and try and find a solution.

How parents can help.

- Please chat to your students about AR and remind them to read their book.
- Ask them to tell you about the book – what happens? Are they enjoying it?
- Remind students that they can quiz from home – a link has been sent via SMHW and will be re-sent throughout the year.
- Please encourage reading and if necessary, build it into a night-time routine.

Positive feedback!

- It was a good way to start a morning and expand my vocabulary.
- I found a genre of books I like to read which will make it easier for me to find and enjoy a new book.
- I have read more often than I did last year.
- I have read a lot more than I expected to.
- I definitely liked reading more this year than I did before.
- I think I found it easier to understand the book better.

Success stories!

- Nathan – an avid non-fiction fan, began AR with a reading age of 11 and finished with a reading age of 15.
- Charlie – began with a reading range of 3.8-5.8 and ended with 4.5-8.4, a leap from a reading age of 10:08 to 13:04
- Lois – began with a reading age of 13 and now has the reading age of a 16 year old.