

Reading at home

PARENTS' GUIDE TO 'AR'

At Rose Hill Primary, we use Accelerated Reader (Renaissance Learning), a system featuring an extensive range of fiction and non-fiction books which is designed to help children develop their skills as independent readers and encourage a love of reading. Here is a guide to how Accelerated Reader works and how you can help your child at home.

How it works

Accelerated Reader identifies the level of difficulty of each book. In school, children are assessed to identify a 'reading range' (known as a ZPD). This range helps children to choose books with enough challenge to develop their reading skills, without causing frustration.

Each book has a:

- book level (BL) – the level of difficulty
- points level (PL) – a combination of difficulty and length
- interest level (IL) – the suitable age

Once your child has enjoyed reading a book, they should take a reading quiz. The quiz will contain multiple-choice questions about the book. A score of 80% or more will indicate that your child has understood the book. If your child repeatedly scores 100%, it is time to try a book with a higher book level or points level.

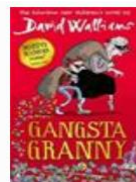
You can quiz at home

All pupils in Years 3,4,5 and 6 can log into AR and quiz from home. The web address is:
<https://ukhosted39.renlearn.co.uk/2248291>
and log in just like at school.

How can I find out if a book has an AR level?

If you have books at home, it is easy to find out if a book has an AR level. Search for the book using the title or the author on **arbookfind.co.uk**

For example, 'Gangsta Granny' by David Walliams has a book level of 4.9, a points level of 5.0 and the interest level is middle years (MY).



Gangsta Granny

Walliams, David
AR Quiz No. 220860 EN Fiction
IL: MY - BL: 4.9 - AR Pts: 5.0
AR Quiz Types: RP, VP
Rating: ★★★★★

Whereas, 'Beetle Boy' by M.G Leonard, also suitable for middle years, has a book level of 4.9 and a points level of 9.0 and is therefore more challenging.



Beetle Boy

Leonard, M.G.
AR Quiz No. 230479 EN Fiction
IL: MY - BL: 4.9 - AR Pts: 9.0
AR Quiz Types: RP
Rating: ★★★★★

Free online books

Great news! AR have a vast catalogue of fact and fiction books (with reading quizzes) that can be read for free online.

Go to readon.myon.co.uk and click on 'Start reading!'

How do I know if a book is suitable for my child?

If your child is not sure about his or her reading range, please look at our guidance 'Reading at Home: A Parents' Guide to Fluency'. To understand what they are reading, children need to understand 95% of the words¹. Children need to be exposed to unfamiliar vocabulary to develop as readers, but too many unknown words will lead to frustration. Explain any unfamiliar vocabulary and ask your child to explain what they have read. If they find this difficult, it may be a sign the book your child is reading is too challenging.

Don't forget, reading to your child is really important and children can listen to and understand books that are beyond their own reading level. Reading books below your child's reading level can be fun and relaxing too.

It is also important to note that expert readers may be able to confidently read books with higher levels, but the content may not be appropriate. To help you choose books which are suitable for your child, AR identifies the 'interest level' of each book.

Interest level	LY	Lower Years	age 5-8
	MY	Middle Years	age 9-13
	UY	Upper Years	age 14+

For more information visit renaissance.com/2016/09/09/parents-guide-renaissance-accelerated-reader-360/

¹ Quigley, A. (2018) *Closing the Vocabulary Gap*. London: Routledge.