

Reading practice quizzes should preferably be done within 24 hours of finishing the book. A score of 60% or more is needed to pass a quiz, although students should aim for 80% or more to demonstrate a good level of comprehension.

What are interest levels?

The interest level indicates what is appropriate for an age group, based on the content and theme. These are recommendations only and teachers, librarians and parents are encouraged to use their best judgements when guiding on book choice.

LY = Lower Years (Key Stage 1)

MY = Middle Years (Key Stage 2)

MY+ = Middle Years Plus (Key Stage 3)

UY = Upper Years (key Stages 3 & 4)

How can I help at home?

We recommend that a child reads approximately 15 minutes per day at home. The more a child reads, the greater their improvement and comprehension over all subjects increases.

If your child is reading a book from home and you wish to know if there is an AR Quiz, or to search for books that will interest your child, you can visit the AR Bookfinder at www.arbookfind.co.uk

You can view your child's AR information such as points earned and books they have read, by using the Home Connect link (via the Curriculum pages) on the Parkside Middle School website and logging in with the login and password they use at school.



A Parent's Guide to Accelerated Reader



Here at Parkside our goal is to ensure that pupils leave us after Year 8 as confident and able readers.

We believe in the importance of reading. There is evidence to suggest that reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background.

As a result, we have invested in AR to raise our children's literacy levels and encourage a love of reading.

What is Accelerated Reader?

AR is a computer program that helps teachers and librarians manage and monitor pupils' independent reading. It enables us to constantly track and gauge all our pupils' progress and quickly put into place extra support when needed.

Pupils choose books within their own reading and interest level from a large range of books on offer in our library and read at their own pace. Once finished, pupils take a quick AR reading practice quiz on one of our computers or iPads to show that they have understood what they have read.

What is a Star Reading Test?

The Star Reading Test is used to determine your child's reading level. It is a computer based reading assessment with multiple choice questions that continually adjust to your child's responses. If the child's response is correct, the difficulty level will increase, if they answer incorrectly or not at all, the level of difficulty will

be reduced. The results from the Star Test enable pupils to choose books from the library which are at an appropriate level for their reading ability.

What information is inside the library book cover?

Book levels, ZPD's and points regarding a book can be found on the inside of a book which has been chosen from our library.

What is a Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD)?

This is the range of book levels that a child can read within, to ensure that reading is challenging without causing frustration or loss of motivation. Pupils will receive a ZPD after taking the Star Test. The level of your child's ZPD can be found in their planner.

What is a book level?

Books in our library are labelled with levels which range from 0.5 to 13.5. These book levels represent the difficulty of the text. Pupils choose books from a wide variety of titles available in our library based on the ZPD range recommended from their Star Reading Test or based on the professional judgment of the teacher, using their knowledge of your child.

What are points?

Each book that has an AR reading practice quiz is given a point value based on the difficulty and length of the book. Students earn points depending on how well they do on the quiz.