

THIRD GRADE ACCELERATED READER INFORMATION

The Accelerated Reader (AR) program is a program designed to motivate students to read and understand what they are reading. The only way a person can become a good reader is to read!

There are over 1500 books listed on our AR reading list. These books can be found in the school library, our classroom library, or the public library. Each book is assigned an AR book level. This level gives an indication of the text difficulty, or readability of the book. The books are also assigned an interest level based on publisher recommendations. This does not mean grade level – book level does not necessarily equal grade level.

Book points are based on length and difficulty of the book. After a student reads a book, he or she takes a Reading Practice Quiz and receives points based on the book's point value and how well he or she did on the quiz. 100% accuracy is needed on the test in order to receive the full value of the points for the book. 85% accuracy is needed to pass the test and receive partial point value for the book.

Each quarter a goal of a certain number of points will be set for each student. (We will start the year at 5 points...after that, points will be determined by the student's reading ability during the previous quarter.) At the end of the quarter, the points the student earned will be tallied and will become part of that quarter's reading grade.

Books can be read to the student, with the student, and read independently. Obviously, the goal would be to get the student to read independently. However, some books that are at a higher reading level can be understood and enjoyed by students if they are read to them. (I read books to the students that are above their reading level all the time – they love them!) Also, you can gauge your child's reading ability by reading with them – again, higher level books could be read by doing this. When the student takes a test on the book, the computer will ask them "How was this book read?"

One last note about AR. Many books have been made into movies. Students sometimes think they can pass an AR test by watching the movie of the book. If you have ever read a book and then watched the movie made from that book, you will know that this is a guaranteed failure because the movie is NEVER the same as the book.

Our goal is to make each student a better reader who loves to read. AR is a means to achieve this goal. Please help us to help your child. Thank you.

Miss Mueller