



Accelerated Reading (AR)

The Purpose of this program is to:

- Accelerate the reading of all 2nd students
 - » **accelerate** *verb* to cause to go faster
- Encourage students to read a variety of reading materials
- Encourage frequency of reading
- Improve comprehension skills
- Provide instant feedback



AR and STAR

- Both programs published by Renaissance Learning Co.
<http://www.renlearn.com/>
- STAR Test (will be passed out at conferences)
 - Take in the lab (3 times a year)
 - Timed vocabulary, reading comprehension test
 - Results: ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development) – Independent Reading Level
 - We use a formula provided by Renaissance Learning to set goals.



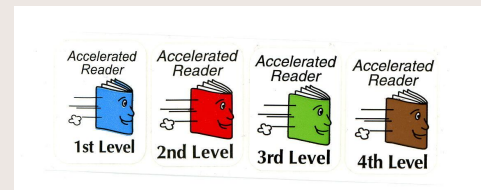
How does A.R. work?

- Students read books on AR list
 - www.brooklandbearcats.org – Elementary Library and AR Information
 - From school library or classroom libraries
 - From public library
 - From home library
- Students take quizzes.
- Check goal and percent correct (100 % of goal and 85 % correct – B)
- Incentives to encourage participation – field trips (3 a year - depends on funds - park, movie, bowling...)
- **Remember - AR is a reward program - not mandatory**



How Are Books Labeled?

- Books are labeled
 - AR RL (Accelerated Reader Reading Level)
 - AR PTS (Accelerated Reader Points)
- Books are color coded in our library and many teachers have the same stickers or levels in classrooms.





How do students take a quiz?

- In their classroom, library or computer lab
- Find quiz title that matches the book they read or look for the author
- Student takes the quiz on the computer
- Computer gives score
 - 60 % to pass (that is computer program default)
 - 80% required by teachers
- Computer gives correct answers to missed questions if quiz is passed
- Points are awarded based on the score
- Check Goals and Points after test
- Students are not permitted to test at home



How do I know how my child is doing?

www.brooklandbearcats.org

Elementary Library and AR Information

- <https://hosted77.renlearn.com/215474/HomeConnect/Login.aspx>
- Login with child's username/password (lunch number)



What happens if a child fails a quiz?

- That information is added to their record.
 - Approximately 12 scores of 100 to bring up a 0 % to passing,
 - Approximately 8 scores of 100 to bring up a 20 % to passing
- Teachers can block students who repeatedly test below or above their level (let us know if you would like us to block your child)



How are the points assigned?

- Length of book, difficulty of vocabulary, number of words
- Most Picture books are 0.5 points
- Most Chapter books range from 1.0 – 3.0 points
- Chapter books vary
 - Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix
 - 44 points
 - 870 pages



What can you do to help?

- Read with or to child
- Help them keep track of books they read
- Ask questions about the book
- Listen to books on tape or CD
- Encourage child to read to a younger sibling or grandparent or even the dog!



What if you still have questions?

- Email Shannon Lantz, Brookland Elementary Media Specialist
slantz@bpsbearcats.com
- Email Allie Brooks, Elementary Technology Teacher
abrooks@bpsbearcats.com
- Call Mrs. Lantz or Mrs. Brooks at 870-932-9382 ext. 131