📚 A Parent's Guide to Accelerated Reader

Helping your child enjoy reading and build confidence

What is Accelerated Reader?

Accelerated Reader (AR) is a reading programme designed to encourage children to read regularly, develop their understanding of books and become confident, enthusiastic readers.

Children choose books that are suitable for their reading ability and interests. After reading a book, they may take a **short quiz** to check how well they understood what they have read.

The aim is not simply to collect points or pass quizzes — it is to help children **read more, understand more and enjoy reading**.

📖 How does it work?

1. Choose a book

Your child chooses an AR book that is appropriate for their reading level.

Encourage them to choose something they are interested in. Fiction, non-fiction, humour, adventure and different genres can all help develop a love of reading.

2. Read the book

Your child reads the book independently, either at school or at home.

Regular reading is much more important than rushing through lots of books.

3. Take the quiz

Once the book has been finished, your child can take a short quiz.

The questions check their **understanding and comprehension** of the book.

4. Use the results

Teachers can use quiz results and reading information to help monitor progress and support your child's reading development.

🏠 How can I help at home?

You can make a huge difference by making reading a positive part of everyday life.

💗 Encourage regular reading

Try to make time for reading every day, even if it is only for a short period.

💬 Talk about the book

Ask questions such as:

- "What has happened so far?"
- "Who is your favourite character?"
- "What do you think will happen next?"
- "What was the most interesting part?"
- "Would you recommend this book?"

You don't need to test your child — **a relaxed conversation is enough**.

📚 Let them choose

Where possible, allow your child to choose books that interest them.

It's perfectly normal for children to have favourite genres, authors or series.

🌟 Praise effort

Celebrate your child's reading habits and progress rather than focusing only on quiz scores or points.

Try saying:

"I really enjoyed hearing you talk about that book."

or

"Well done for making time to read today."

? Do I need to help with the AR quiz?

Your child should normally complete the quiz **independently**, so that the result gives an accurate picture of their understanding.

You can talk about the book beforehand, but try not to give your child the answers.

The quiz is there to help teachers understand how well your child is comprehending what they read — it isn't a test for parents!

★ Remember...

Accelerated Reader is about much more than points.

The most important goals are to help your child:

- 📖 Read regularly
- 🧠 Understand what they read
- 💬 Talk about books
- 🌱 Build confidence
- 💖 Develop a love of reading

Most importantly...

Keep reading enjoyable!

Reading together, visiting the library, listening to audiobooks and talking about stories are all valuable ways to develop a lifelong love of reading.

Thank you for supporting your child's reading journey! ✸