



ACCELERATED READER: A GUIDE FOR PARENTS



Accelerated Reader: A Guide for Parents

At CPA, all pupils use the **Accelerated Reader** programme, which is designed to do the following things:

- Find books that are the right ability for your child
- Encourage your child to read more
- Improve your child's reading ability.

HOW IT WORKS...

At the start of the year every pupil took a **Star Reader Test**, which is a computer-based test that measures a student's reading ability through a series of 34 questions.

Every test for every pupil is different, and the computer selects different questions for each child dependent on how well they answer the previous questions. Essentially, the computer adapts the test to suit your son or daughter.

Once the student has completed the test, they are then given a **ZPD score** by their teacher.



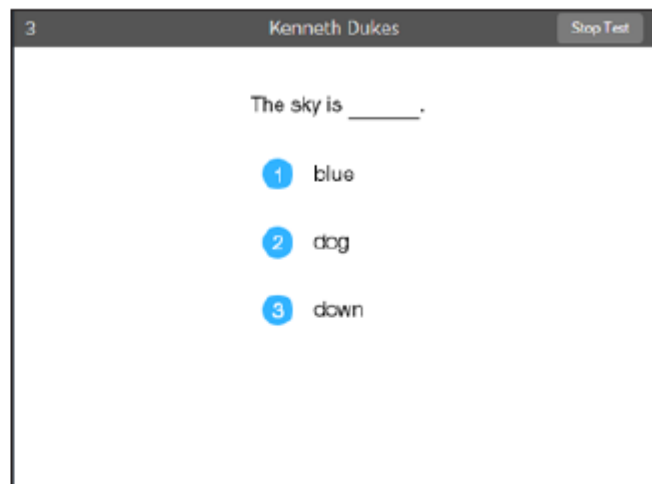
HOW STAR TESTS WORK

- 1) The pupil must take their time. It is recommended that each child should spend at least 20 minutes on their tests. Students are used to working quickly in timed conditions, but during a STAR test it is about concentration, focus and careful reading.
- 2) Pupils should not guess answers to questions. Instead, they should wait for the question to time out. This is to ensure the computer is not given a false impression of the child's reading ability.
- 3) Tests are done in exam conditions without any help from other pupils or the teacher.



Picture 1

Fill-in-the-blank questions have a sentence with a word missing. There will also be a list of three or four words that could fit in the blank. Your job is to choose the word that best completes the sentence.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with a dark header bar. On the left of the header is the number '3', in the center is the name 'Kenneth Dukes', and on the right is a 'Stop Test' button. The main content area contains the sentence 'The sky is _____.' followed by a list of three options, each preceded by a blue circle with a white number: '1 blue', '2 dog', and '3 down'.

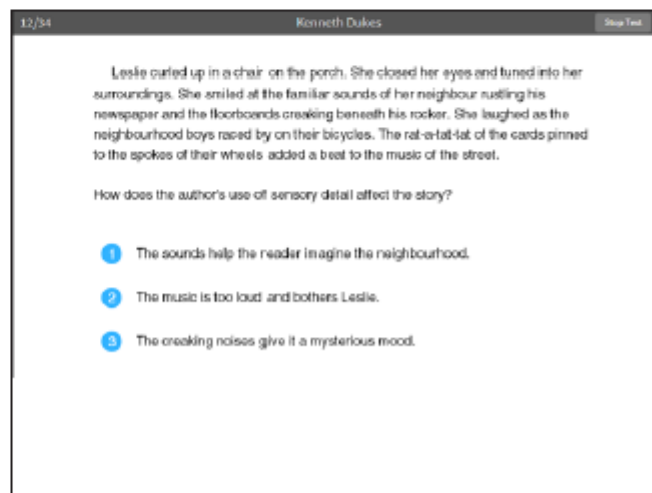
3 Kenneth Dukes Stop Test

The sky is _____.

- 1 blue
- 2 dog
- 3 down

Web browser

Short-answer questions have a text passage at the top, followed by a question about the passage. There will be a list of three or four possible answers. Your job is to choose the best answer to the question.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with a dark header bar. On the left of the header is '12/34', in the center is 'Kenneth Dukes', and on the right is a 'Stop Test' button. The main content area contains a text passage about a character named Leslie. Below the passage is a question: 'How does the author's use of sensory detail affect the story?'. This is followed by a list of three possible answers, each preceded by a blue circle with a white number: '1 The sounds help the reader imagine the neighbourhood.', '2 The music is too loud and bothers Leslie.', and '3 The creaking noises give it a mysterious mood.'

12/34 Kenneth Dukes Stop Test

Leslie curled up in a chair on the porch. She closed her eyes and tuned into her surroundings. She smiled at the familiar sounds of her neighbour rustling his newspaper and the floorboards creaking beneath his rocker. She laughed as the neighbourhood boys raced by on their bicycles. The rat-a-tat-tat of the cards pinned to the spokes of their wheels added a beat to the music of the street.

How does the author's use of sensory detail affect the story?

- 1 The sounds help the reader imagine the neighbourhood.
- 2 The music is too loud and bothers Leslie.
- 3 The creaking noises give it a mysterious mood.

A ZPD SCORE IS GIVEN TO YOUR CHILD AFTER COMPLETING THE STAR TEST

3.2 – 4.6

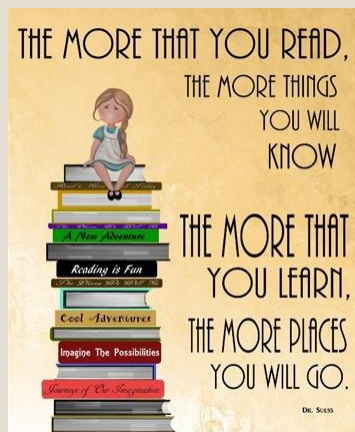
Lowest
number

Highest
number

ZPD is two numbers that the pupil uses to choose their next reading book.

The lowest number is the lowest level of book the pupil should be choosing.

The highest number is the highest level of book the student should be choosing.



A new STAR test takes place every half term, so students can see improvements in their reading ability, but also choose more challenging books.

AR QUIZZES

A quiz is different to a STAR test because students only take a quiz **after** they have *finished* a book.

There are usually between 5-10 questions on the book that has been read. At the end of the quiz the pupils are given a percentage to show them how well they have done.

There are some important rules for taking quizzes:

- 1) The book the child is quizzed on **must be a book they have read in the last two days**. AR is not a memory test but rather measuring reading ability.
- 2) A student cannot take a quiz until they have read the entire text.
- 3) Quizzes must be done individually, not with anyone's help.

“How much should my child read each day?”

According to Renaissance Learning’s research, children who read at least 20 minutes a day with a 90% comprehension rate on AR quizzes see the greatest gains in progress.

Therefore, your child should have at least 20 minutes set aside for reading during day.

Teachers expect children to be reading for 20 minutes as daily homework. Parents should monitor this and sign their reading record.

“How can I help?”

As with anything, performance improves with practice.

Encourage your child to read at home.

Create a culture of reading in your household by reading with your child, starting a home library, visiting your local library, charity shop or bookshop on a regular basis and by letting your child see you reading.

When reading with your child stop and ask questions to be sure your child comprehends what they have read and in general make a habit of discussing books that each of you has read.



Can a child who is not a strong reader still use Accelerated Reader?

Accelerated Reader helps all children become better readers from pupil, regardless of initial ability.

When children read books at their appropriate level, they experience success.

Furthermore, teachers work with children to set appropriate targets based on each child's reading level.

Key questions to help improve your child's reading:

Does it look right?
Does it sound right?
Does it make sense?

BOOK FINDER

In google, search for 'Accelerated Reader Book Finder'

Click parent

RENAISSANCE®

Welcome

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader Bookfinder™

United Kingdom & Ireland

Searching for Accelerated Reader books is fun and easy with this free online tool.

Please tell us who you are:

- ☐ Student
- ☐ Parent
- ☐ Teacher
- ☐ Librarian

Submit




TYPE IN THE TITLE OF YOUR HOME BOOK TO FIND OUT WHAT LEVEL IT IS.

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader Bookfinder™

United Kingdom & Ireland


Parent Quick Search Advanced Search Collections

 AR BookBag™

Enter Keycode

You do not need a Keycode to search. However, if your child's teacher gave you a Keycode, enter it here to search the most relevant books for your child.

You can search for book titles based on authors, topics or titles of books. Just type what you want to search for in the blank field above and click **Search**. You will then be able to sort your search results, select book titles to add to your AR BookBag, print a list of your search results or start a new search.



[A Parent's Guide to Accelerated Reader BookFinder »](#)
Learn more about how to help your child develop a love for reading

Search Results

Titles 1 - 20 of 598

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Black Beauty

Owens, L.L.
AR Quiz No. 215130 EN Fiction
IL: MY - BL: 3.0 - AR Pts: 0.5
AR Quiz Types: RP
Rating: ★★★★★

In this retelling of the classic Anna Sewell tale, Black Beauty grows up in the fields and horse meadows of Victorian England. His peaceful childhood fades away as he faces human cruelty in a world that cares little for the happiness of animals.

 Add to AR BookBag™



Black Beauty

Sykes, Julie
AR Quiz No. 212993 EN Fiction
IL: MY - BL: 4.5 - AR Pts: 2.0
AR Quiz Types: RP
Rating: ★★★★★

The story of a special horse and his many adventures in life. Original story written by Anna Sewell. Oxford Reading Tree Stage 15. TreeTops Classics.

 Add to AR BookBag™



Black Beauty

Brown, Ruth
AR Quiz No. 229184 EN Fiction
IL: MY - BL: 4.0 - AR Pts: 0.5
AR Quiz Types: RP
Rating: ★★★★★

An adaptation of Anna Sewell's classic novel retold by Ruth Brown. Discover Black Beauty's journey, as told in his own voice.

 Add to AR BookBag™

PROGRESS IN READING

If a child can read 96% or more of a book correctly = Easy for them

If a child can read 90%-95% of a book correctly = Instructional Level
(This is ideal and where they learn and improve.)

If a child reads 89% or less of a book correctly = Hard

To make progress in reading we need our pupils to be
passing their quizzes at 85%+

By reading with your child you can help them to
achieve this target.

WHEN TO MOVE UP A BOOK LEVEL

What does my score tell me?

