

Coweta County School System

Accelerated Reader Procedures

Introduction

Accelerated Reader™ is a reading incentive program for our 1st-8th grade that encourages students to read more and better quality books using a reading point system with goals and recognition to motivate. This fun program has been proven to boost student academic performance.

After taking a STAR reading test, students are placed in a ZPD and teachers set appropriate book levels and point goals for students to reach.

To ensure that the data is accurate across the county, steps need to be taken to regulate the validity of the program. This document will outline guidelines on how this program is to be implemented at the school level.

Definitions

Identify ZPD

Get each student's Grade Equivalent (GE) score from a standardized assessment, such as STAR Reading, or estimate a GE based on past performance. The corresponding ZPD is a recommended book-level range for the student. If books in that range seem too hard or too easy for the student, choose a new range or create a wider one that better matches his/her abilities.

Setting Goals

Average percent correct goal— The most important goal for all students is to cumulative overall average 85% or higher on Reading Practice Quizzes by the end of the 9 weeks. Meeting this goal has significant impact on students' reading growth. If a student struggles to maintain the minimum average, talk to him/her and find out why. Then decide on an appropriate strategy to help him/her succeed. You may need to lower the point value and book level in books that are read.

Point goals—A chart that shows the number of points students are expected to earn depending on how much time they read and at what levels. These are estimates—set goals that are realistic for your individual students.

Site Administrator – The school media specialist and the school Educational Technology Support Specialist

Media Committee – This committee will assume all responsibilities of Accelerated Reader. This committee will include at least the media specialist and the Educational Technology Support Specialist.

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1. Student information
 - The site administrator will add, edit or delete student information in the database.
 - The site administrator will create new classes, enroll and unenroll students from classes.
 - Students of any grade level may enroll and take a quiz when they are able to read the questions on their own. Student names need to be given to the site administrator to add to the program.
2. Quiz Purchases

The site administrator will:

 - maintain a balanced collection of books and quizzes at all reading levels and all interest levels
 - choose and purchase all quizzes and AR books that are centrally located in the media center to meet the needs of the school
 - import new quizzes that were purchased
 - attempt to purchase quizzes if Renaissance Learning has the quiz available.
 - have administrative rights to the program and give teachers only access to their classroom.
3. Other Quiz Information
 - If the quiz is currently in the school AR database, then the book can be located anywhere i.e., a classroom or the local public library. For any future purchasing of tests, the book must be located in the library.
 - Parents may not create tests.
 - If teachers create tests for the program, the tests must be submitted and approved by the media committee. If accepted, the site administrator will input test questions into the program.
 - Teachers may not delete student quizzes that have been taken in previous years. If a test is to be deleted, it is at the discretion of the site administrator.
 - Quizzes can be made or purchased for independent reading books suggested by publishers. However, quizzes **cannot** be created from any textbook.
 - Quizzes can only be taken during the hours of 7:30AM – 2:30PM.
4. Grading
 - Teachers **cannot** take any kind of grade from the quizzes or final averages for their grade book.
5. Rewards
 - Rewards for student accomplishments are to be decided by the media committee (school-wide and grade level). This can include celebrations, AR stores, etc.
6. Privacy Policy
 - Teachers are not to post or publicly display student averages of neither quizzes nor their reading level.
7. Transfer of Records
 - When elementary students transfer from one school to another, their Accelerated Reader records need to transfer also. The site administrator will be responsible for the transfer when notified by the office staff of the student transfer.