

## **What is Accelerated Reader?**

AR is a computer program that helps teachers manage and monitor children's independent reading practice. Your child chooses a book at his own level and reads it at his own pace. When finished, your child takes a short quiz on the computer. Passing the quiz is an indication that your child understood what was read.

After the quiz is taken you receive a TOPS Report from your child's teacher. The report shows the quiz results which reflect your child's reading comprehension. The average score should be 85%. If your child consistently scores less they may be choosing books beyond their reading level, or if they consistently score 100% they may need to choose more challenging books.

## **What is the ATOS Book Level?**

Book Levels are determined using the ATOS readability formula and represents the difficulty of the text. For Example, a book level of 4.5 means the text could likely be read independently by a student whose reading skills are at the level of a typical fourth grader in the fifth month of school. You can find the ATOS level on the spine of MPS library books. Some book publishers are now printing reading levels on the back of books, you will see something like this: RL 5.0 (Reading Level 5th grade) or Ages: 8 -12, this indicates reading level and appropriateness.

## **What is the Interest Level?**

Accelerated Reader quizzes are divided into three Interest Levels: Lower Grades (LG), Middle Grades (MG), and Upper Grades (UG). The Interest Level reflects the judgment of the book's publisher and the opinions of the professionals at Renaissance Learning (Accelerated Reader provider). You can find the Interest Level on the spine of MPS library books. As mentioned above, some book publishers are now printing the age appropriateness on the back of books. Mission Parish School encourages parents to monitor the appropriateness of the books their children are reading.

## **Mission Parish School Library**

The school library is open on Wednesdays during school hours. Each class is given a designated time to visit the library. The library currently has over 1700 books for various reading levels from which your child can choose. They may also read a book from the public library or from their own collection at home, however there must be an AR Quiz available in order for the book be included in the AR program. To see what AR quizzes are presently available, please do the following:

1. Visit our school website
2. Go To Academics and click on Accelerated Reader
3. Click on the Arbookfind link. These are the books your child may choose to read for the AR program. You can also simply put the link on your Favorites list for easy reference.

It should be noted that not all the books listed on ARbookfind are available in our school library; however we will have the quiz for that specific book.

All questions regarding your child's reading level and individual performance should be directed to your child's teacher, however, if you have any library or AR related questions, please feel free to contact me at the following email: [cdelamare@missionparishschool.org](mailto:cdelamare@missionparishschool.org).

Thanks for your support,

Cynthia Delamare  
*AR Coordinator*