



DIVINE WISDOM CATHOLIC ACADEMY

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Principal

Accelerated Reader

What is Accelerated Reader?

Accelerated Reader is a reading program designed to encourage and promote successful reading. It helps students track their reading comprehension by providing them the tools to measure their improvement. **AR** places the focus on the careful reading of books, which in turn promotes critical thinking.

How does it work?

Children read books in their **ZPD** (Zone of Proximal Development). After the parent or teacher signs off on the reading log, the child logs on a school device and takes the **AR** Reading quiz for the book they just completed. They earn points based on their success on each quiz. The questions are designed to show how well the student understood what he or she read. The school will provide incentives to encourage successful reading. Parents and teachers will work together to encourage a love of reading in our children.

How is my child's Reading Level established?

At the beginning of the school year, your child took an iReady Reading Diagnostic test that determined his/her appropriate reading level as well as being assessed with the Fountas and Pinnell running records (when applicable). Based on his or her performance on these assessments, he or she is assigned a **ZPD** and **reading level**.

How can my child move up a reading level?

When your child is consistently successful in reading a variety of materials (fiction, non-fiction, biography) his/her teacher will raise the reading level by a small amount. If a student is having trouble passing the **AR** tests at a particular level, the teacher may decide to have them try books at a different level.

How can I find out how many points my child has accumulated?

Progress reports will be sent home with your child so you can see your child's **AR** quiz scores and the number of words he or she has accumulated. The Academy goal is 500,000 words per student.

Can my child take quizzes on books we own or check out of the library?

Yes, but the tests will only be taken in school. **AR** has quizzes for over 10,000 book titles.

When will my kindergartner be included in the AR program? The purpose of **AR** is to promote successful reading experiences. You can help your children's' readiness by reading to and with them. Assist them with daily reading assignments. Help your children make book choices appropriate to their reading level. Encourage their efforts and ask them about the stories they are reading. Your child's teacher will communicate when your child is ready to begin quizzing on AR, the class will begin by taking quizzes on read alouds.