

# The Importance of Reading Practice

PERFECT FOR RTI

**How Accelerated  
Reader Improves  
Your Curriculum  
and Instruction**



Accelerated Reader is an RTI progress-monitoring measurement that provides data as often as daily on overall reading comprehension of the entire school, class, groups, and individuals in all tiers, and has been reviewed by the National Center on Student Progress Monitoring. AR is also the central tool for AR Best Practices, an evidence-based core and intervention program.



## What is Accelerated Reader?

Accelerated Reader (AR) makes the essential practice component of your reading curriculum more personalized and effective by helping teachers guide students to appropriate-level books and providing them with daily feedback on all three types of reading practice (read to, read with, and independent reading). More than 125,000 quizzes are available in four different types to assess comprehension, vocabulary development, literacy skills development, and textbook reading. Accelerated Reader facilitates reading across the curriculum by helping teachers find books on the topics currently being studied so they can provide additional reading practice that's pertinent to the curriculum.

### **Fill Your School With Eager Readers Without Draining Your Budget!**

With education budgets tighter than ever, you need to make every dollar count. That's why more teachers trust Accelerated Reader than any other reading product to lead their students to the greatest advancement in reading achievement for the least investment.

# Perfect for Readers of All Ages and Abilities

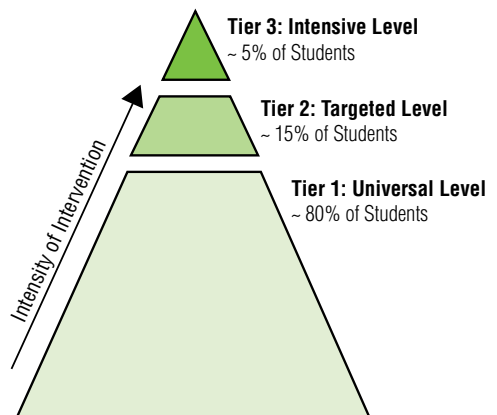
Emerging readers require direct explicit instruction of decoding skills and need to have books read aloud to them. As students progress, teachers engage in textbook-based guided reading and also pair students with peers or adults who read with them interactively. Next, the time arrives when a student is able to read independently.

Accelerated Reader enables teachers to provide personalized practice and continuous feedback on all three types of student reading practice: to, with, and independent. In addition, the software runs four different types of quizzes to assess all the reading activities students do every day.

## Using Accelerated Reader With RTI

Accelerated Reader provides quick, accurate information about each student's status and personalized reading practice. It is one of the most cost-effective ways to improve student achievement<sup>1</sup> and is recognized as both an all-student universal reading practice program and as an intervention with struggling students.

(1) Yeh, 2007 (Yeh, Stuart S.). The cost-effectiveness of five policies for improving student achievement. *American Journal of Evaluation*, 28(4), (416–436.)



**Use at Tier 1:** Using progress-monitoring data from varied AR quiz types, including Reading Practice (in English, Spanish, and Recorded Voice formats), Literacy Skills, Vocabulary Practice, and Textbook Series quizzes, teachers can target instruction and differentiate learning every day for every student. Students could, for example, be grouped by reading level around a common book. And individualized vocabulary lists can be generated from AR to ensure students are exposed to new words before encountering them while reading.

**Use at Tiers 2 and 3:** Because of the emphasis on ensuring students are reading books that are neither too easy nor too difficult, AR can be used to help struggling readers experience success in reading, possibly for the first time. And using AR, those students that need a specific reading intervention or specially designed instruction can be identified more quickly. These students can still be part of the schoolwide community of readers with a strong AR implementation that includes adapted content, methodology, or instructional delivery, such as one that includes greater emphasis on Read To/With support.

# How Accelerated Reader Helps Raise Standardized Test Scores

Research shows that the more minutes per day students read, with an average of 90% correct on AR quizzes, the better they do on standardized tests.

20 minutes	2.0 NCEs gained
30 minutes	4.8 NCEs gained
60 minutes	6.1 NCEs gained

The chart below shows how teachers using AR can set individualized reading practice goals for students in three easy steps:

- 1** Identify the child's grade-equivalent score (using STAR Reading or another reading test).
- 2** Identify the suggested zone of proximal development (ZPD) which is the book level range in which students will experience maximum growth.
- 3** Set point goals based on how much reading practice time is available. Points are a measure of the amount of reading practice.

Grade-Equivalent Score	Suggested ZPD	60 Min. Daily Practice			30 Min. Daily Practice			20 Min. Daily Practice		
		Points per Week	Points per 6 Weeks	Points per 9 Weeks	Points per Week	Points per 6 Weeks	Points per 9 Weeks	Points per Week	Points per 6 Weeks	Points per 9 Weeks
1.0	1.0 – 2.0	1.7	10	15	0.9	5.0	7.5	0.6	3.3	5.0
1.5	1.5 – 2.5	1.9	11	17	1.0	5.5	8.5	0.6	3.7	5.7
2.0	2.0 – 3.0	2.1	13	19	1.1	6.5	9.5	0.7	4.3	6.3
2.5	2.3 – 3.3	2.3	14	21	1.2	7.0	10.5	0.8	4.7	7.0
3.0	2.6 – 3.6	2.5	15	23	1.3	7.5	11.5	0.8	5.0	7.7
3.5	2.8 – 4.0	2.7	16	24	1.4	8.0	12.0	0.9	5.3	8.0
4.0	3.0 – 4.5	2.8	17	25	1.4	8.5	12.5	0.9	5.7	8.3
4.5	3.2 – 5.0	3.2	19	29	1.6	9.5	14.5	1.0	6.3	9.7
5.0	3.4 – 5.4	3.5	21	32	1.8	10.5	16.0	1.2	7.0	10.7
5.5	3.7 – 5.7	3.9	23	35	2.0	11.5	17.5	1.3	7.7	11.7
6.0	4.0 – 6.1	4.2	25	39	2.1	12.5	19.5	1.4	8.3	13.0
6.5	4.2 – 6.5	4.6	28	41	2.3	14.0	20.5	1.5	9.3	13.7
7.0	4.3 – 7.0	4.9	29	44	2.5	14.5	22.0	1.6	9.7	14.7
7.5	4.4 – 7.5	5.3	32	48	2.7	16.0	24.0	1.8	10.7	16.0
8.0	4.5 – 8.0	5.6	34	50	2.8	17.0	25.0	1.9	11.3	16.7
9.0	4.6 – 9.0	6.3	38	57	3.2	19.0	28.5	2.1	12.7	19.0
10.0	4.7 – 10.0	6.9	41	62	3.5	20.0	31.0	2.3	13.7	20.7
11.0	4.8 – 11.0	7.6	46	68	3.8	23.0	34.0	2.5	15.3	22.7
12.0	4.9 – 12.0	8.3	50	75	4.2	25.0	37.5	2.8	16.7	25.0

This chart is a guideline and Renaissance Learning urges teachers to use their professional judgment when setting individual student goals.

# How Accelerated Reader Improves Reading Practice

With Accelerated Reader, teachers can create a customized reading program to meet the needs of every student. Using information generated by the software, teachers can help students select books that are difficult enough to keep them challenged, but not too difficult to cause frustration.

In addition, Accelerated Reader helps teachers monitor students' vocabulary growth, literacy skills development, and reading skills taught through basal readers and other reading textbooks.



## Student Reads a Book

Accelerated Reader makes it easy for teachers to guide students to books that will maximize their success.



### **Student Takes a Quiz**

Accelerated Reader quizzes help teachers motivate and monitor increased reading practice for pre-K–12 students of all abilities.



### **Teachers Get Information**

Accelerated Reader's information-packed reports provide teachers with immediate feedback on the reading and vocabulary progress of each student.

### **Accelerated Reader Quizzes Run on the NEO 2**

In addition to being the perfect tool for writing, NEO 2 enables students to take AR quizzes at their desks. As a result, teachers can eliminate trips to the computer lab, and you can lower your costs of implementing Accelerated Reader.

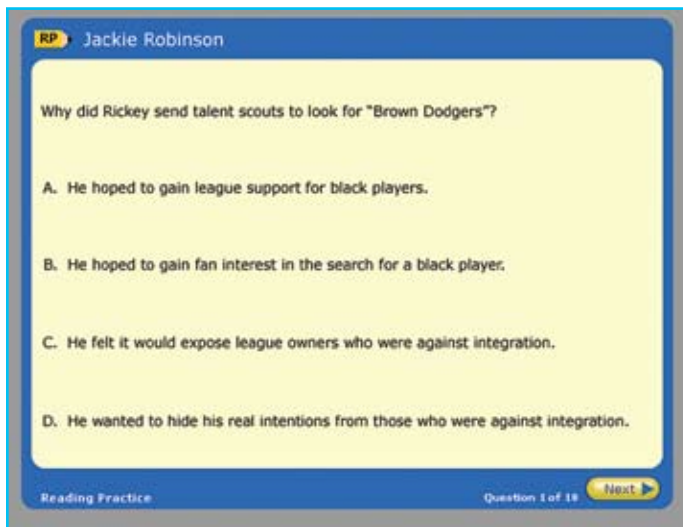


Requires Accelerated Reader Renaissance Place Version 7.5.

# How Accelerated Reader Helps Teachers Differentiate Instruction

Accelerated Reader offers more than 125,000 quizzes, allowing teachers to give students a huge array of reading choices for books read to them, with them, and read independently.

Four types of quizzes help teachers effectively differentiate instruction by managing all the reading activities students do:



RP Jackie Robinson

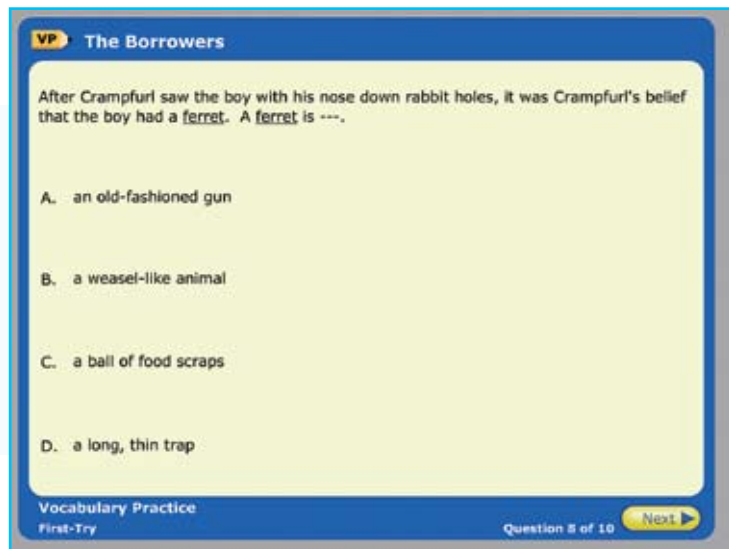
Why did Rickey send talent scouts to look for "Brown Dodgers"?

- A. He hoped to gain league support for black players.
- B. He hoped to gain fan interest in the search for a black player.
- C. He felt it would expose league owners who were against integration.
- D. He wanted to hide his real intentions from those who were against integration.

Reading Practice Question 1 of 18 Next >

**Reading Practice Quizzes** include literal questions that measure a student's comprehension of a book. Reading Practice Quizzes are also available in Spanish for ELL students, and with audio in both English and Spanish for emerging readers.

**Vocabulary Practice Quizzes** help students learn new words by encountering them in context during independent reading.



VP The Borrowers

After Crampfurl saw the boy with his nose down rabbit holes, it was Crampfurl's belief that the boy had a ferret. A ferret is ---.

- A. an old-fashioned gun
- B. a weasel-like animal
- C. a ball of food scraps
- D. a long, thin trap

Vocabulary Practice First-Try Question 8 of 10 Next >

**LS** Of Mice and Men

Why was Slim the most respected worker on the ranch?

A. He was a handy boxer who could beat anybody on the ranch.

B. He knew exactly where the men could find the best whiskey and women in town.

C. He won every bet, contest and challenge that he was offered.

D. He was a skilled skinner and a natural leader.

Literacy Skills  
Literary Analysis: Understanding Characterization

Question 1 of 12 **Next**

**Literacy Skills Quizzes** measure students' proficiency in 24 higher-order thinking skills often assessed on high-stakes standardized tests, such as main idea, inference, and characterization.

**Textbook Series Quizzes** follow direct instruction of key reading skills taught through basal readers and other reading textbooks such as those listed here.

**Harcourt School Publishing**

- Story Town 2008
- Trophies 2003
- Collections 2001
- Vamos 2001
- Social Studies  
Leveled Readers 2007

**Houghton Mifflin**

- Science Independent Readers 2007
- Houghton Mifflin Reading 2003  
(The Nation's Choice) & 2005
- A Legacy of Literacy 2001

**Macmillan/McGraw-Hill**

- Treasures 2010 California (*Coming soon!*)
- Treasures 2009 National
- Treasures 2009 Florida
- Treasures 2007
- Reading 2003

**Pearson/Scott Foresman**

- Reading Street 2010 California
- Reading Street 2007, 2008/2009
- Reading 2000, 2002, & 2004
- Lectura
- Social Studies Content Leveled  
Readers 2005 & 2008
- Science Content Leveled  
Readers 2006 & 2008

**SRA/McGraw-Hill**

- Imagine It! 2008 (*Coming soon!*)
- Open Court 2000 & 2002

# New Renaissance Home Connect Extends Practice Time and Improves Parental Involvement

Included with Accelerated Reader Enterprise, Renaissance Home Connect is the ideal tool to promote parental involvement and notification—an essential element of RTI, and required under the current version of IDEA.



The screenshot displays the Renaissance Home Connect interface for a user named Michael Deletzo. The interface is divided into several sections:

- My Overall Progress:** Shows performance for the current marking period (10/16/2008 - 1/12/2009, 52% Completed).
  - Quizzes:** 87.5% average % correct (Goal: 85, Above Goal).
  - Points:** 27.7 (87% of goal, Goal: 32, 4.3 Points to Goal).
  - ATOS Book Level:** 4.0 average level (Goal: 3.6, Above Goal).
- My Last Quiz:** Taken 1/13/2009. Book: *Because of Winn-Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo. ATOS Book Level: 3.9, Interest Level: Middle Grades. Results: 9 of 10 Correct (90%), 2.6 of 3.0 Points.
- Reader Certifications:** Only passed quizzes count toward certification.
  - Last Achieved:** Advanced Reader (Achieved 1/9/2009, Read: 3 books, ATOS BL: 3.0 or higher, Earned: 2 points or more per book).
  - Current Goal:** Star Reader (Read: 3 books, ATOS BL: 4.0 or higher, Worth: 4 points or more per book).
- Find Books:** AR BookFinder section with a link to open in a new window.

**Renaissance Home Connect** is a new feature of Accelerated Reader Enterprise that will give teachers even more opportunities to extend students' reading practice beyond the school day.

# How You Maintain Control of Your AR Program

Accelerated Reader now runs on the Renaissance Place platform, allowing you to centralize all of your Accelerated Reader implementations into a single, convenient, Web-based management system. In addition to providing tremendous savings in time, money, and technical support, the Renaissance Place edition gives you access to the Renaissance Place Dashboard shown here.

The Renaissance Place Dashboard gives you a high-level overview of your students' reading performance by school, grade level, or classroom so you can see how your implementation is proceeding and whether any adjustments are necessary to ensure even greater success.



## Perfect for RTI

The Renaissance Place Dashboard provides continuous whole-group monitoring as required by many RTI frameworks.

# How Accelerated Reader Reports Inform Instruction

Accelerated Reader gives teachers all the information they need to differentiate instruction and manage the daily reading activities of a wide range of students.

Accelerated Reader reports provide continuous progress monitoring to help teachers make appropriate instructional decisions within a Response to Intervention framework.



**Diagnostic Report—Reading Practice**  
Printed Wednesday, December 3, 2008 10:20 AM

Reporting Period: 10/15/2008–11/30/2008  
(Marking Period 2)

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School: Oakwood Elementary School

**Report Options**  
Reporting Parameter Group: All Demographics [Default]  
Quiz Language: Report on both English and Spanish quizzes  
Group By: Class  
Filter Student Quizzes: No

**Class: Grade 4 (Adams)**  
Teacher: Adams, Marcie

Student	Diag. Codes	RP Quizzes		% Correct		Points					Engaged Time Per Day <sup>a</sup>	Book Level		Certification Working Toward		
		Passed	Taken	Goal	Avg.	Goal	Earned	% of Goal	% Read Indep.	% Fiction		ATOS BL Goal	ATOS 2000 Avg.			
Anderson, Marcus		4	4	90	95.0	8.2	9.5	115.9	100	100	34.8	3.0	3.3	440	491	Achieved
Bell, Timothy		4	4	90	95.0	9.8	11.5	117.3	100	100	35.2	3.3	3.6	491	549	Achieved
Bosley, Matthew		8	8	90	96.3	7.6	7.6	100.0	100	75	30.0	2.6	2.9	361	420	Super(2)
Chang, Michelle		4	4	90	97.5	8.5	11.8	138.8	100	100	41.6	3.0	3.5	440	530	Star
Gonzales, Maria		4	4	85	87.5	9.1	7.1	78.0	100	100	23.4	3.0	3.6	440	549	Achieved
Halden, Susan		7	7	85	91.4	7.2	5.9	61.9	100	57	24.6	2.5	2.8	348	401	Advanced(2)
O'Neil, Sarah		4	4	90	100.0	10.9	15.0	137.6	100	100	41.3	3.5	4.1	530	631	Star(2)
Richmond, Angela		4	4	85	87.5	8.5	8.8	103.5	100	100	31.1	3.0	3.2	440	479	Achieved
Rodriguez, Carlos	%	5	5	85	82.0	9.5	5.6	58.9	100	60	17.7	3.2	3.0	479	440	Advanced
Stone, Lisa		7	7	85	94.3	7.8	7.7	98.7	100	100	29.6	2.6	2.9	361	420	Advanced
Average		5	5	88	92.6				100	89	30.9	3.0	3.3	440	491	

**Diagnostic Code Summary**

Number of Students	Percent of Students	Diag. Code	Code Description
0	0	A	No quizzes taken during period
0	0	B	Low average percent correct (70% to 79%)
0	0	C	Very low average percent correct (below 70%)
0	0	D	Low points earned - less than 1/2 median points (0% median = 4.1 points)
0	0	E	Low percent correct with above median points (median = 8.3 points)
0	0	F	Very low percent correct with above median points (median = 8.3 points)
			Average percent correct below 85%

**Class Summary**

Number of Students	10
Total Quizzes	
Passed	51
Taken	51
Total Points	
Goal	87.1
Earned	90.5
Percent Read Independently	100%
Percent Fiction / Nonfiction	89% / 11%

<sup>a</sup> The student is engaged in reading practice. Displayed in minutes. It is based on a test score from STAR Reading™ or STAR Early Literacy™ and not reported unless the student tested with a STAR assessment within the last 12 months.

## Diagnostic Report

This report includes special diagnostic codes to help teachers immediately identify students requiring intervention.

Diagnostic codes alert you to students having difficulty. This student has an average quiz score below 85%.

This report shows student and class progress toward Average Percent Correct, Point, Book Level, and Certification goals. Review weekly to monitor performance and look for students who may need help.

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## Status of the Class

Accelerated Reader's reports enable teachers to conduct Status of the Class daily to:

- Check that Student Reading Logs are up-to-date.
- Check pages read to ensure students are reading at a reasonable pace.
- Check that book levels are appropriate for each student's ZPD.
- Ask questions to ensure students are comprehending what they are reading.
- Watch for signs that a student is struggling with a book.

### Schoolwide Summary Report—

This report summarizes school performance on Reading Practice Quizzes by class and grade.

Accelerated Reader		Schoolwide Summary Report						
		Printed Tuesday, May 5 2009 10:20:42 AM						
School: Richmond Elementary School		Reporting Period: 01/26/09-01/26/09						
Report Options								
Group By: Grade								
Filter Student Quizzes: No								
	Number of Students	Students		Quizzes	Points			Avg. BL
		% At Risk	% Below 85% Corr.	Avg % Correct	Total Earned	% Ind.a	Median	ATOS BL
<b>Grade 3</b>								
Burton 3A	13	30.8	7.7	90.7	165.5	100.0	11.7	3.4
Chao 3B	20	5.0	30.0	88.0	555.2	98.0	27.2	4.4
Doohan 3C	13	7.7	0.0	89.0	314.2	100.0	24.1	4.1
Dom 3D	19	0.0	5.3	91.0	298.7	99.7	15.7	4.4
Frakes 3E	19	5.3	0.0	92.7	361.1	87.9	18.1	4.5
Summary	84	9.8	8.6	90.3	1694.7	97.1	19.4	4.2
<b>Grade 4</b>								
Barret 4A	20	0.0	10.0	91.2	759.7	99.0	31.3	4.5
Crosby 4B	22	13.6	4.5	92.2	480.1	99.8	18.2	3.9
De Lancia 4C	23	4.3	0.0	92.9	504.0	90.7	20.8	4.0
Kolar 4D	10	10.0	10.0	90.4	200.7	99.0	17.6	3.6
McFadden 4E	19	15.8	10.5	89.3	282.6	98.0	16.2	3.6
Summary	94	8.7	7.0	91.2	2227.1	97.3	20.8	3.9
<b>Grade 5</b>								
Bonsall 5A	17	0.0	0.0	92.9	537.7	100.0	31.8	5.3
Goldberg 5B	16	0.0	0.0	91.9	686.6	99.9	41.2	4.9
Kelley 5C	27	3.7	0.0	92.3	639.5	100.0	18.7	4.9
Siris 5D	19	0.0	0.0	91.3	966.4	100.0	49.9	5.8
Spiner 5E	23	4.3	8.7	91.1	645.0	100.0	24.2	4.8
Summary	102	1.6	1.7	91.9	3475.2	100.0	33.2	5.1
<b>Grade 6</b>								
Cromwell 6A	21	4.8	4.8	92.2	982.6	98.7	42.9	4.6
Janssen 6B	21	4.8	0.0	95.5	1124.0	100.0	52.6	5.7
Krige 6C	26	3.8	0.0	91.3	516.6	98.8	15.6	3.5
Meaney 6D	22	18.2	0.0	93.8	1294.6	99.9	36.1	5.0
Wheaton 6E	23	8.7	0.0	95.9	620.1	100.0	29.4	4.3
Summary	113	8.1	1.0	93.7	4537.9	99.5	35.3	4.6
<b>Report Summary</b>								
	Number of Students	% At Risk	% Below 85% Corr.	Quizzes Avg % Correct	Points Total Earned	% Ind.a	Median	Avg. BL ATOS BL
Grade 3	84	9.8	8.6	90.3	1694.7	97.1	19.4	4.2
Grade 4	94	8.7	7.0	91.2	2227.1	97.3	20.8	3.9
Grade 5	102	1.6	1.7	91.9	3475.2	100.0	33.2	5.1
Grade 6	113	8.1	1.0	93.7	4537.9	99.5	35.3	4.6
Summary	393	7.1	4.6	91.8	11934.9	98.5	27.2	4.5

aPercent of points earned from independent reading



## Best Classroom Practices Ensure Your Success

When implemented properly, Accelerated Reader can have a real and measurable impact on your reading curriculum. That's why your Accelerated Reader purchase includes 9 hours of Web-based professional development to help your teachers get up and running quickly and maximize your success.

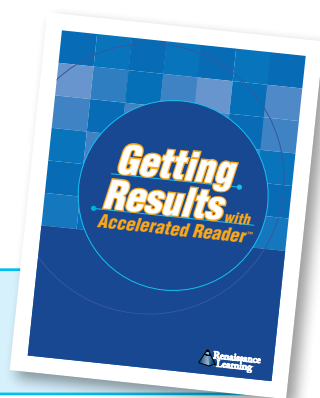
In addition to the Web-based sessions, ongoing professional development is offered in a variety of different formats. Our Accelerated Reader experts are available to help you and your teachers determine your best option—including a blend of training offerings—to best meet your specific needs and budget.

### Perfect for RTI

Accelerated Reader Best Practices provide the tools, classroom practices, and professional development for core and intervention programs across all levels of RTI implementation.

For details visit [www.renlearn.com/profdevel](http://www.renlearn.com/profdevel).

The 92-page guide called "Getting Results with Accelerated Reader" is available as a FREE download at our Web site, or for \$14.95 through our online store. Visit [www.renlearn.com](http://www.renlearn.com).



# What Works Clearinghouse

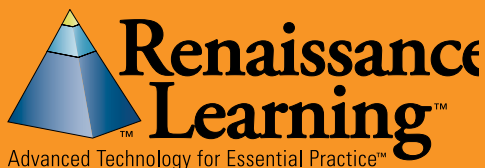


## **Federally Funded Organizations Agree: Accelerated Reader Works**

There is consensus among key federally funded organizations charged with evaluating educational products that Accelerated Reader is fully supported by scientifically based research. Moreover, these organizations agree that Accelerated Reader is effective in improving students' reading achievement.

# About Renaissance Learning

Renaissance Learning is the world's leading provider of computer-based assessment technology for pre-K–12 schools. Adopted by more than 75,000 North American schools, Renaissance Learning's tools provide daily formative assessment and periodic progress-monitoring technology to enhance the curriculum, support differentiated instruction, and personalize practice in reading, writing, and math. Renaissance Learning products help educators make the practice component of their existing curriculum more effective by providing tools to personalize practice and easily manage the daily activities for students of all levels. As a result, teachers using Renaissance Learning products accelerate learning, get more satisfaction from teaching, and achieve higher test scores on state and national tests.



Advanced Technology for Essential Practice™

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