

Dunham School

Ellison Reading and Research Center

Renaissance Learning - Accelerated Reader

Accelerated Reader (AR) makes the essential practice component of the Dunham School reading curriculum more personalized and effective by helping teachers guide students to appropriate-level books and providing them with feedback on all three types of reading practice (read to, read with, and independent reading).

Our new web-based version in Renaissance Place offers more than 125,000 quizzes in four different types to assess comprehension, vocabulary development, literacy skills development, and textbook reading. Teachers guide students to books that will maximize their success.

How it Works

There are three steps to using AR.

First, the students choose and read a fiction or non-fiction book. Teachers monitor reading including guided, paired, literature-based, or textbook reading.

Second, students take an on-line quiz.

Third, using any combination of more than 30 different reports immediately generated by the software, teachers can evaluate student reading, comprehension, amount of reading, diagnostic information and other variables. Teachers can then help students select books that are difficult enough to keep them challenged, but not too difficult to cause frustration.

Parent Involvement with Renaissance Home Connect

With our new Renaissance Home Connect, parents can be directly involved making student reading practice even more effective. By logging on from their home computer, students and parents can:

- see progress toward reading goals

- review results on AR quizzes

- view the number of books read, words read, and quizzes passed

- conduct book searches using AR Bookfinder (<http://www.arbookfind.com/>)

You can view Home Connect from any computer with an Internet connection using these browsers:

- Internet Explorer® 6.02 or later
- Firefox® 1.5 or later
- Safari™ 2.0.3 or later

To log in to Home Connect:

Web site: <https://Hosted174.renlearn.com/341168/HomeConnect/Login.aspx>

Information will be sent home from your child's teacher with the login information you will need. It is the same login your child uses for Renaissance programs at school, so you can log in right now if your child remembers it.

www.arbookfind.com

The Quick search tab in AR Book Finder allows you to type keywords into a blank field. You can refine your search using the advanced search tab on the top of the page, this will also insure that your child finds only appropriate books for their age and reading level.

New Reading Assessment Tool

STAR Reader

This on-line reading assessment determines the reading level of each student, measures individual and class growth, and can forecast results on standardized tests with accurate, reliable, and efficient data. Students can complete this reading test in approximately ten minutes and it is administered several times a year to monitor student reading growth.

Accelerated Reader and STAR Reader are curriculum-based assessment tools that provide a summary and analysis of reading results that enable our teachers to guide and monitor both the quantity and quality of reading practice engaged in by our students. These tools have proven to be valuable and motivating adjunct learning information systems to our reading curriculum at the Dunham School.

New Math Assessment Tool

Star Math

This on-line math assessment determines the math level of each student, measures individual growth, and helps teachers determine the appropriate level of challenge for personal practice and instruction.

If you have any questions about Renaissance Place or Home Connect please contact Jeanne Jones at jeanne.jones@dunhamschool.org.

