Ocee Accelerated Reader (AR) Program
Questions & Answers - Q&A

Your student's teacher can answer many questions about the program, however, please first consult the AR Program Guide and the Home Connect website for details about your child's progress. This document can help answer some questions that are asked frequently.

How do I know if my student is taking / has taken AR quizzes?
How do I find out how many points my student has earned?

Use the website below to check on their progress (quizzes taken, points earned, % correct, average level.)

Renaissance Home Connect website:

https://hosted248.renlearn.com/51622/HomeConnect/Login.aspx

- "**User Name**" is found on the inside cover of student's agenda spiral and it the same number student uses for school lunch, and many software programs at school.
- "**Password**" is student's birthdate (mmddyyyy) preceded by the letters "HC". For example, if birthdate is January 31, 2006, password is "HC01312006".

Tip: Click on "Email Setup" on the top right when you login to enter your email address to receive an email each time your student takes an AR Quiz.

Where and When Can AR Quizzes Be Taken?

When and where else can quizzes be taken?
- Students can take AR Quizzes in classroom, as allowed by their teachers.
- Students can take AR Quizzes in the Computer Lab (7:10-7:40am), so long as students follow their homeroom teachers' specific directions.

Can the quizzes be taken at home?
- No. Students can only take AR Quizzes in the classroom or Computer Lab.

Can the quizzes be taken on paper?
- No. Students can only take AR Quizzes on computer or equivalent at school.
- **Can I take AR quizzes in the Learning Commons?**
- No. There is not supervision or dedicated help for AR in this location

Is my student able to take AR quizzes during standardized testing times?

The Computer Lab is closed to AR testing during standardized testing days. Ask your teacher if you can take quizzes in the classroom in the mornings before testing begins.

My student says she has not been able to log into the AR Quiz website

- If the AR Quiz website does not allow your student to log in or take quizzes, have her ask their teacher or Computer Lab teacher about it.
- If she is still not able to log in to take quizzes, follow-up by email to PTA's AR Program Chairs at oceear@gmail.com.

Taking Quizzes in the Classroom
- Teacher will give guidance to students to taking quizzes in the classroom
- Students are expected to unpack and finish any morning work assignments prior to taking AR quizzes.
- There are computer and other technology in the classroom that can be used to take AR quizzes, availability varies and they are shared with all other students in the class and used for a variety of purposes.
- To help assist your student and to speed up the process, please have students bring their Username, Password, and book title or AR Quiz No. found on ARbookfind.com.
- Prime time for taking quizzes is from 7:10an-7:35am.

Taking Quizzes in the Computer Lab
How does taking quizzes in the Computer Lab in the morning before class work? Student should take direction of teacher whether this is allowed.
- Computer Lab teacher is in charge and may have student volunteers / Ocee Ambassadors (upper grade students) available to help.
- Follow Computer Lab teacher's instructions for where to store backpacks, etc.
- To help assist your student if necessary and to speed up the process, please have students bring their Username, Password, and book title or AR Quiz No. found on ARbookfind.com
- Students are asked **to** raise their hand to request help when needed.
- Computer Lab teacher will alert students when it's time to finish current quiz and leave for class.
- Time for taking quizzes is from 7:10an-7:35am. Arrival closer to 7:40 will not allow time to take quizzes. Students will be sent to class if they arrive at the computer lab too close to class time

Will my student receive a "tardy" for being late to class because they were taking an AR Quiz in the Computer Lab?
- Yes, students will receive a tardy. To avoid this from happening, instruct your student to follow directions from her teacher and the Computer Lab teacher.

Logging In
How does a student log in to take AR Quizzes?
- AR Quizzes can only be taken at school, in the classroom, or computer lab with permission.
- After clicking the AR icon on the school computers, students enter their Username (their

student id no.) and Password (their birthday mmddyyyy, ex. July 10, 2007 = 07102007).
- Username is located on a sticker on inside cover of spiral book /Agenda;
- Note, UserName is found on the inside cover of student's agenda spiral and it the same number student uses for school lunch, and many software programs at school. The teacher can help if they don't know their username and password

What is the fasted way for students to locate a particular AR Quiz?
- Each AR book has a unique AR Quiz No. with the software. Using this is the fastest way to search for a book's AR Quiz. You can look this up at ARbookfind.com

Inside the Quizzes
- Quiz question difficulty and number of questions varies based on the reading level of the book
- After logging in, student is asked to click whether they read the book themselves or if it was read to them - this does not impact their points.
- Student has the option to select headphones yes or no (The AR software can read the quiz questions to your child)

What kind of questions are in the quizzes? The Quizzes ask basic recall of events in the book.
Are quizzes multiple choice questions or fill-in the blanks?
The quizzes are multiple choice questions

How many quizzes, realistically, can be taken per day or week?
This depends on many factors such as:
- volume of students taking quizzes on a given day
- availability of the technical devices in the classroom or Computer Lab,
- time students arrive at school / have left after arrival to take Quizzes before class starts
- how long it takes them to log in and search for the correct quiz (see Quiz Taking Tip above)
- how long they need to finish quizzes.
- Some quizzes will take more time because they have more questions, due to the length of the book.

What if my student is not be able to read the Quiz questions?
- Student should ask for teacher assistance to choose the option to use headphones to hear questions and multiple choice options.
- Headphones are available in the classrooms and Computer Lab.
- Note - If the student starts taking a quiz and then realizes she cannot read the questions, she cannot go back and choose the headphones option once the quiz has started.

My student searched for a book he read and he cannot find the AR Quiz.

- **Tip** - Have your student raise his hand and request help when needed.
- **Tip** –Encourage / help student write username, password and AR Quiz numbers on paper to bring to school as a reference.
- The quiz search tool requires exact typing of the title. Therefore, typing errors, words left out or added, and misspellings will result in a student not finding quizzes he wants.
- Some books are in the AR software under subtitles, not the main title, such as "Flat Stanley's Midnight Ride of Paul Revere" can be found by entering "Midnight Ride of Paul Revere," but can't be found by including the words "Flat Stanley."
- It is much easier and accurate for your student to search by the AR Quiz Number. Parents can look up the AR Quiz No. on ARbookfind.com

Can my student re-take a quiz to earn a higher score on the quiz?

- No. Students cannot re-take AR Quizzes. Quizzes may be taken once per book. The AR Quiz system tracks your student's history and will not allow her to re-take a Quiz.

Can my student take quizzes on books he read before the start of the AR Periods?

- Yes. The AR program promotes reading throughout the year. Students can take quizzes on books they read during summer break or other breaks, in addition to books read during the school year.

Note, Taking quizzes closer to time that the book is read may result in better recall and higher potential scores.

Points

How many points are earned per book?

- Maximum points attainable from an AR Quiz are on the AR Bookfinder website (ARbookfind.com) and on the inside cover of all books with blue "Accelerated Reader" stickers on the spines
- The maximum points are earned if the AR quiz score is 100%.
- A percentage of the total points may be earned if the score is above 70%.
- Score below 70% is worth 0 points.

How do I find out how many points my student has earned?

- Parents can view student's AR progress using the AR Home Connect website
- How do I login to the Home connect website?
- Go to https://hosted248.renlearn.com/51622/HomeConnect
- "**User Name**" is found on the inside cover of student's agenda (spiral.) It is also the same number student uses for school lunch, and for logging in to many software programs at school.
- "**Password**" is student's birthdate (mmddyyyy) preceded by the letters "HC". For example, if birthdate is January 31, 2006, password is "HC01312006".

My student took a Vocabulary Quiz and scored highly, why hasn't his point count increased?

- Only Reading Quizzes earn points towards the AR Program. If a book's Reading Quiz has already been taken, the website will offer a Vocabulary Quiz.
- Vocabulary Quizzes do not earn points towards the AR Program. But are optional and beneficial to students.

Laps vs Periods

What is the difference between a Period and a Lap?

- The AR program is divided into 6 Periods. The end of each Period marks a checkpoint where students can earn rewards.
- Laps are points milestones. When a Lap is reached at the end of a Period, a student can earn a reward specific to that Lap.
- The year-long objective is for students to achieve the highest level of Laps they can, by the end of the 6th Period (Race Finish).

The Standings Racetrack

When will my student's Race Car first appear on the Racetrack?

- After scoring at least 1 point on a Quiz during a Period, the Race Car with their name on it will appear on the Racetrack within 10 days after a Period Ends. (For example, for period 1, cars should first appear on the racetrack by the end of October)

When will my student's car move on the Racetrack?

- If enough points are earned to advance to the next Lap, the Race Car will move to the next lap within 10 days after the Period Ends.

My student earned enough points to be further on the Racetrack than he is shown. Why has his car not advanced?

- If the points are not earned by 3pm of the Period End date, the points are not counted towards that Period. The points will be counted towards the next Period.
- It may be that your student's points total included points attained after 3pm of the Period End date.
- Double check the total points earned on the Home Connect website and compare it to the lap chart on the AR Program Guide.
- If after these things are verified first, email OceeAR@gmail.com.

Does my student's score or participation affect her school grades or scores?

- No. The AR Program is an optional academic enrichment program sponsored and coordinated by Ocee PTA volunteers.

Lap Rewards

How many points does my student need to earn to receive a specific reward?
- Refer to Examples of Rewards table in the AR Program Guide that was distributed with Thursday Papers.
- Also see this link: http://oceepta.com/accelerated-reader

How are rewards handed out?
- After the PTA's AR Team volunteers tabulate the students points within 10 days after a Period Ends and they distribute the rewards to the classes, teachers will be handing out rewards to students to take home at a time convenient for the teacher.

My student earned enough points for the lap reward by the Period End Date but she says she did not receive her reward.
- Confirm her total points earned on the Home Connect website and compare to the AR Program Guide's Examples of Rewards table.
- Rewards are determined and distributed approximately 10 days after Period End Date.
- If points were attained by 3pm on Period End Date and it has been 10 days after Period End Date (see AR Program Guide for AR Period Dates table), inquire by email to your child's teacher.
- PTA's AR Program Chairs: oceear@gmail.com. can be of assistance if the teacher says that they have not received the prize to distribute.

When will the Lap 5 Experience Rewards take place?
- Lap 5 is a special milestone because of the Experience Rewards that involves the participation of Ocee teachers and administrators. The timing of the reward experience will depend on the availability of the Ocee staff. The goal is to have the Experience Rewards completed in late spring.

How will I be notified that I am invited to the All-Stars Breakfast recognition event - if my student reached the All-Stars/final lap level by AR Program End/Race Finish?
- The All-Stars Breakfast is an event to recognize students that reach the final lap (see AR Program Guide for Lap Milestones by Points table). Parents are invited to watch the awards ceremony.
- If your student reaches the All-Stars Lap before the 5th Period Ends, you will receive a notice slip in Thursday Papers to save the date. In May, a hardcopy invitation will be sent home with your student.
- If your student reaches the All-Stars Lap at the 6th Period End Date, student will receive a hardcopy invitation sent home (but not a save the date reminder.)

Ocee Elementary Library (Media center, Learning Commons)

How many books can be checked out by each student?

1st-5th grade = 2 books due back in 14 days

Parents can request a learning commons account and can check out 5 books for 14 days.

For more information, please refer to http://www.oceelearningcommons.com

Information that might be found on spine of most library books:

- Approximate grade level of book 4.2 = 4th grade, month 2
- Blue Accelerated reader sticker

Local Libraries

You can reference ARbookfinder.com to make sure books selected in these libraries have AR quizzes associated with them.

- **Ocee Library**– http://www.afpls.org/ocee-branch6
- **Spruill Oaks Library** – http://www.afpls.org/northeast-spruill-oaks-branch
- **Alpharetta Library** – http://www.afpls.org/alpharetta-branch

What is the AR Valentine's Kindle Tablet Challenge?

From Monday, February 5th thru Friday, February 9th, Accelerated Reader quiz-takers can earn chances to win an Amazon Fire Tablet with Kindle! The more points you earn, the more chances you'll have to win! The winner will be announced the following week.

How is the Winner Determined for the AR Valentine's Kindle Tablet Challenge?

- Each student receives a raffle ticket for each point earned from quizzes taken from 2/5/18 through 2/9/18.
- To earn a ticket, the student must score greater than 0 points on an AR Reading Quiz.
- Reading Quiz scores are rounded up when a fraction (ex. 1.3pts rounds to 2pts, therefore 2 tickets earned for that quiz).
- From each grade, a semi-finalist ticket will be randomly drawn from all the tickets earned between 2/5/18 through 2/9/18.
- The final winner will be randomly drawn from the 5 semi-finalist tickets.

If you have other questions, please contact PTA's AR Program Chairs at oceear@gmail.com.