



Accelerated Reader At Shorne C of E Primary School

Wednesday 1st November
Miss Chantry

“ Our primary purpose is to accelerate learning for all children and adults of all ability levels and ethnic and social backgrounds, worldwide.”



Workshop Aims...

- **To understand what Accelerated Reader is and why we are using it**
- **To understand how Accelerated Reader works**
- **To understand how you can continue to support your child with reading at home**

Why Accelerated Reader...



I asked two teachers what significant changes they had seen since implementing Accelerated Reader and they answered almost simultaneously: 'Children are reading!' The whole school has a culture of reading now. Children want to share the books they are reading with others. Because they have a free choice of what they read within their ZPD, they enjoy the books they are reading. We've also seen more children taking their books home to read in their own spare time. Children are taking ownership of their reading and enjoying the experience.

It is clear to see that Accelerated Reader has had a huge impact on progress, and on children attitudes towards reading. Reading has returned to all aspects of the school curriculum; non-fiction research books are now being borrowed from the library on a regular basis. These books had previously sat on shelves collecting dust for years. The huge improvement in children's reading ages and ZPDs is amazing to see. Parents, teachers and children are all so enthusiastic about the improvements and progress we are making through Accelerated Reader.

What is Accelerated Reader?

- **A computer based programme**
- **Enables children to select their own books and assesses their understanding of what they have read**
- **Used as a monitoring tool to track achievements and progress over time**
- **Other schools within our Academy have had great success using Accelerated Reader. Utilising our library**

Quotes from our recent Ofsted inspection...

- You have successfully promoted reading across the school. Pupils told me that they enjoy the new system in which they receive stars for correctly completing a task which tests their understanding of books. They are excited about the prospect of earning a certificate.
- Pupils can talk about the books they are reading at home and at school. The class books, such as 'Goodnight Mr Tom' in Year 6, are appropriately challenging. Phonics is taught well. The library is well stocked and pupils say they enjoy borrowing the books to read at home. The new strategy for developing pupils' comprehension is well received by pupils and already improving their understanding of what they read.

How does Accelerated Reader work?

- **At the beginning of each half-term, every child in Year 2 – Year 6 will take a STAR reading test.**
- **This assesses key reading skills and reading comprehension.**
- **The test is taken on the computer and questions adapt as the child works through the assessment.**

STAR Reading Test Examples

I sent a short note to my friend on a postcard .

- 1 horseback
- 2 sundial
- 3 postcard
- 4 farewell

We collected enough food for the flood victims because everyone was very _____.

- 1 generous
- 2 brilliant
- 3 reasonable
- 4 modest

Some people still make butter at home. One way to make butter is to put sweet cream in a jar and shake it. Another way is to put the cream in a blender. An eggbeater will work too. Some people add salt, but others do not.

How is this passage organised?

- 1 It lists different ways people make butter.
- 2 It tells a story in the order it happens.
- 3 It gives reasons for an opinion.

Ruby's mum answered the door and found Ruby waiting there. "Where are your keys?" she asked.

"I lost my rucksack at school," Ruby cried. "My keys are in it!"

"Don't worry, I'm sure we'll find it," said her mum, smiling. She phoned the school and found out the rucksack was safe in the school's office.

What shows that Ruby's mum is probably a calm person?

- 1 She asks Ruby where her keys are.
- 2 She knows where the rucksack is.
- 3 She thinks clearly and calls the school.

Clouds are filled with tiny water droplets. Over time, the droplets get bigger and heavier and form raindrops. If it's warm, the drops fall to the ground as rain. If the air temperature is cold enough, the falling drops become snow. People would rather have a white, snowy day than a grey, rainy day.

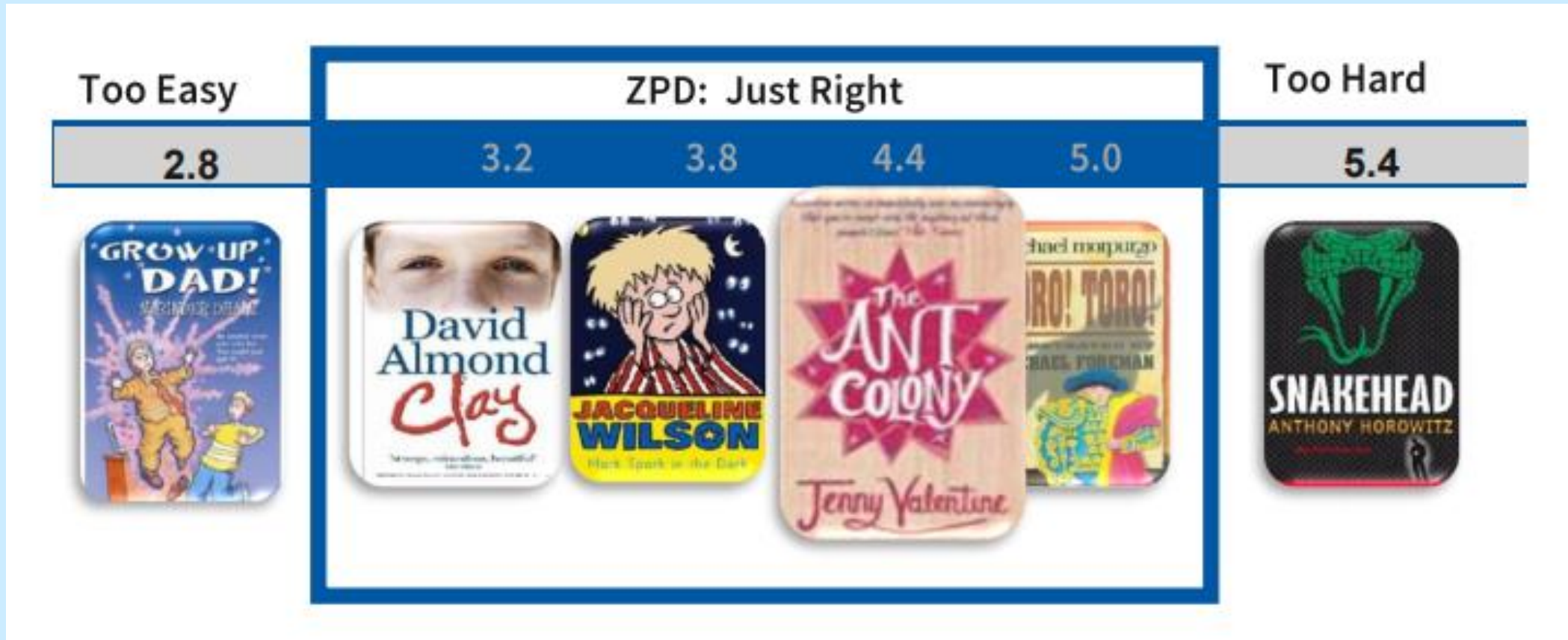
Which sentence is an opinion?

- 1 People would rather have a white, snowy day than a grey, rainy day.
- 2 If the air temperature is cold enough, the falling drops become snow.
- 3 Over time, the droplets get bigger and heavier and form raindrops.

How does Accelerated Reader work?

- **When a child has completed a STAR test, the system provides the teacher with a reading level and a Zone of Proximal Development.**
- **This lets the children choose their reading book from a range that will benefit their reading.**
- **The STAR test results are monitored over time and provides us with data to track your child's progress.**

This child has completed his / her STAR test and they have a ZPD of between 3.2 and 5.0.



Book Levels...


- **The level of each book is set by Accelerated Reader and is calculated using two main factors – average sentence length and difficulty of vocabulary.**

What next...

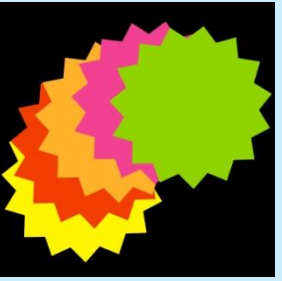
- **Children visit the library and choose a book from within their range.**
- **When they have finished their book, they then take a quiz. This should be within 2 days of finishing their book.**
- **This quiz is called a 'Reading Practice' quiz. Some books also have a 'Vocabulary Practice' quiz that the children can take if they would like to.**

How is progress tracked?

- Reading records
- TOPS report – Instant feedback for children and teachers.
- Miss Duebel provides fortnightly and termly reports to all teachers

| Accelerated Reader | | Reading Practice TOPS Report | |
|---|--|---|--|
| | | Reprint for Annie Fernandez | |
| | | Printed 07 August 2009 15:07:18 | |
| School: Renaissance Learning Test School | | Year: 7 | |
| Class: Year 7 | | Teacher: Mr R Mellard | |
| What I Read | | How I Did | |
| Eco-Wolf and the Three Pigs: Seriously Silly Stories by Anholt Laurence | | Correct: 10 of 10 Percentage Correct: 100% ●●●●●●●●●● <i>Awesome, Annie!</i> | |
| ATOS BL #: 3.9 | | Points Earned: 0.5 of 0.5 | |
| Quiz Number: 203587 F/NF: Fiction | | | |
| Quiz Date: 12/05/2009 13:17 Word Count: 1,618 | | | |
| Interest Level: Lower Years (LY) | | | |
| TWT: Read Independently | | | |
| My Progress in 2008 - 2009 | | | |
| 01/08/2008 - 12/05/2009 (77% Complete) | | | |
| Average % Correct: 90.2% | | Points Earned: 53.6 | |
|  | | No Target Set | |
| Average ATOS BL: 3.2 | | Marking Period Totals | |
| No Target Set | | Quizzes Passed: 111 | |
| | | Quizzes Taken: 111 | |
| | | Words Read: 156,976 | |

Rewards and Incentives



- **Stars for 100% on their book quiz. At the end of each term, some stars will be selected for a reward.**
- **Last term – certificates related to earning stars.**
- **This term – certificates will relate to number of words read.**
- **Rewards and incentives will change regularly.**

How you can help at home

- Encouragement
- Read regularly
- Discuss the book – post it notes at the end of each chapter for a longer book.
- Discuss quiz scores.
- Use AR book finder website – www.arbookfind.co.uk

Success so far



- **Since September, children in Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 have read nearly 4 million words!**
- **Year 2 – 152,973**
- **Year 3 - 534,090**
- **Year 4 – 893,160**
- **Year 5 – 1,891,878**
- **Year 6 – 512,253**



**Thank you for your time
this afternoon.**