

Accelerated Reader

Students in the 6th grade Language Arts classes will be required to participate in the Accelerated Reader program as part of their Reading grade. Accelerated Reader involves the independent reading of novels of appropriate length, content, and text difficulty for each individual student. The purpose of A.R. is to enable powerful reading practice through data that aids the student, parent, and teacher to personalize the practice. Children using AR choose their own books to read, rather than having one assigned to them. This makes reading a much more enjoyable experience, as students can choose books that are interesting to them.

Program Details

- Students will be taken to the school media center in Language Arts class at least once a week. They may use this time to choose books, take A.R. tests, or work quietly on their independent reading. **Students may not take AR tests at home.**
- Students chose a book to read for which Maltby has purchased the Accelerated Reader test. Nearly every book in the media center is an A.R. book. However, if a student wishes to read a book for which an A.R. test does not exist, an alternate means for earning points can be arranged. These arrangements should be discussed with the teacher *before* the book is read.
- A.R. books can be identified in the media center by the yellow dot on the spine. Students can also search for A.R. book choices by going to the Maltby website and then “Academic Resources”. Students can search for A.R. books here by subject, point value, and book level. Furthermore, the A.R. book search website can be reached directly by going to <http://www.arbookfind.com/default.aspx>.
- **Reading Logs:** Students are required to complete a weekly reading log weekly to track their reading at school and at home. Students will turn in their weekly reading log on Mondays and receive a new one for the week. **Students are required to read 100 minutes at home** and record their minutes on the reading log. A weekly reading log grade will be given. **A parent signature is required before a grade will be given.**
- After reading the book, students sign on to the computer at Maltby to take the A.R. test. *Once students sign in to a particular test, they will not be allowed to retake the test or quit in the middle of a test.*
- Students must pass the test to earn any points on the book. .Students do not necessarily earn all of the points for a book unless they earn 100%. Points are figured according to the percentage correct.
- **If a student fails an A.R. test on the computer, they may arrange to conference with their teacher to discuss the possibility of earning points on the book through an alternate assignment. These arrangements should be made *immediately* upon failing the test.**
- **HomeConnect:** Parents are able to track their child’s Accelerated Reader information. Visit the Maltby library website: <http://basmltbymediacenter.weebly.com/> From there, click on the “**About**” tab in the the navigation bar, then on the “**Accelerated Reader**” button. Once you click on this, it will take you to a logon screen. You will need to use your child’s Accelerated Reader username and password to access the account. Your child should know their username and password. **For example**, “Sam Smith”, the **username** is the first initial of the first name and the first four letters of the last name, **SSMI**. The **password** is the first initial of the first name and the first initial of the last name, **SS**.

- **At the end of the marking period, a student’s trimester AR grade is calculated on the percentage of their AR goal they completed. They also will receive an overall reading comprehension grade based on their overall AR test results. This is one of the biggest assignments in “Reading” every marking period and has a great impact on the final grade in this class.**
- Points do not carry over into following marking periods. Everyone starts over at zero on the first day of the next marking period. New AR goals are set.
- All books read must be fourth/fifth grade reading level or above unless an exception has been agreed upon by the teacher. Reading book level will be based on MAP lexile scores and student interest.
- Students may only earn points on books that they have read *this* year. They may not do Accelerated Reader on any books they have read in the past.
- **The cut-off day for earning points in a marking period will always be two days before the last day of the trimester.** Students should work on pacing themselves so that they are earning points throughout the marking period and not waiting until the last minute. If any “last minute” points need to be turned in, and a student is absent on the last day, they will have to make arrangements to get the points turned in on time.

Minimum Point Requirements

1st Trimester	25 Points
2nd Trimester	30 Points
3rd Trimester	30 Points

- ***Please note that the above AR point requirement is the minimum. Many students will be setting quarterly AR goals based on various assessments of their reading ability.***

Please sign and return the accompanying slip acknowledging receipt of this document. Keep this copy at home for future reference.

Sincerely, Stacy Kiefer
 Email: kiefers@brightonk12.com

 I have received the information regarding the Accelerated Reader requirement for the Language Arts class.

 Parent Signature

 Student Signature

