



Holy Ghost Catholic School

Accelerated Reader Curriculum Guide

Mission Statement

To foster the love of reading in all children through a software program that motivates, monitors, and manages student reading practice.

Goal

To improve reading by accelerating growth in reading ability, developing lifelong learners and critical thinkers, and improving test scores.

Eligible Participants

All 2nd-6th grade students must participate fully in the program during all quarters, including a graded rubric.

1st grade students will participate in AR during the first/second quarter per teacher recommendation. All 1st grade students will participate during the third and fourth quarter.

Home Connect

Parents will receive a personalized letter – a Home Connect report, with student login information, before the first AR quarter. Parents are encouraged to monitor their child's progress by visiting the Home Connect option of the RenLearn website. This is a parent's way of monitoring progress from home.

Goal Setting

2nd Grade

Students in 2nd grade will begin the year with the ZPD level garnered on the STAR test taken at the end of the previous school year. The STAR helps determine the student's "Zone of proximal development", or "ZPD". This score represents a level that is neither too hard nor too easy, and is the level at which optimal learning takes place.

The STAR report and the number of weeks in the marking period are used to set the student's reading goal each quarter. 15 minutes will be set aside during class time.

3rd-4th Grades

Students in 3rd and 4th grades will begin the year with the ZPD level garnered on the STAR test taken at the end of the previous school year. The STAR helps determine the student's "zone of proximal development", or "ZPD". This score represents a level that is neither too hard nor too easy, and is the level at which optimal learning takes place.

The STAR report and the goal setting chart are used to set the student's reading goal each quarter. All goals for 3rd and 4th graders are based on 30 minutes of reading a day. 15 minutes will be set aside during class time and the other 15 minutes are assigned as homework. **ONLY ONE** classroom novel **can** be used for meeting goals per quarter.

The students must check out, read, and take tests on leveled books that are within their zone. **Fourth graders must read 1 pt. chapter books (minimum) to meet their goal.**

5th-6th Grades

5th Graders will have a book level set at 3.6 and must earn 8 book points/quarter. Books must be a minimum 2 point chapter books.

6th graders will have a book level set 3.8 and must earn 10 book points/quarter. Books must be a minimum 2 point chapter books.

Students goals are based on "at home" reading; no time will be set aside for reading in class.

7th-8th Grades

7th and 8th grade will be an incentive program only. Teachers will send students the necessary information.

Reaching the Goal

Please remember that **3 components** must be met in order for the student to reach 100% of his/her goal:

- Reading at his/her set **book level** or above
- Achieve average of **80%** or above on comprehension on tests
- Earn **book points** until you reach 100% of goal

Students in Grades 2nd-6th will receive a **formative** Reading grade each quarter based on their performance in reaching their AR goal.

Incentives

Points Club – Students will be challenged to become a member of the “Points Club.” Once a student reaches his/her goal, he/she should be encouraged to continue reading and earning points. Students who reach the required points by the end of the AR period for the 4th 9 weeks will become a member.

Students reaching this status will be awarded a medal **at the end of each quarter during morning assembly.** At the end of the school year, the students will be invited to a celebration. To be a member of the “Points Club” students must reach the following points:

1st graders – 25

2nd graders – 50

3rd graders – 75

4th graders – 100

5th graders – 125

6th graders - 150

7th graders – 175

8th graders - 200

In addition, the student who has the highest points at the end of the school year, will be recognized at the last Honors Day Celebration and receive a special medal.

Important Dates

August 12-October 4 - 1st quarter of AR (8 weeks)

October 7 -December 13 - 2nd quarter of AR (8 weeks)

January 7- February 28 - 3rd quarter of AR (8 weeks)

March 10-May 2 - 4th quarter of AR (6 weeks)

EOY Points Club ice cream truck will be scheduled in May.

Library Hours:

The library is open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The library **WILL NOT** be open before or after school for testing.

AR Questions:

Please call or email Kathryn @khuggett@hgscool.org with any questions you may have.

Books Not Eligible for AR Testing

(because they are selections that may be used for instruction)

This list is posted in the library and in teachers' classroom libraries.

3rd Grade **Charlotte's Web, Helen Keller (Margaret Davidson), Sarah Plain and Tall, Because of Winn Dixie, Stuart Little*

4th Grade **Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing, Number the Stars, The Lemonade War, Champ, Cricket in Time Square*

5th Grade **The BFG, James and the Giant Peach, Matilda, The Phantom Tollbooth, The One and Only Ivan, Bridge to Terabithia*

6th Grade **The Unteachables, Restart, Wonder, Hatchet, Unplugged*

7th Grade **Among the Hidden, Ground Zero, The Giver, Long Walk to Water, The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*

8th Grade **The Witch of Blackbird Pond, The Westing Game, Flush, The Watsons Go To Birmingham, The Blackthorn Key, Uglies, The Switch, To Kill a Mockingbird, The Outsiders, Of Mice and Men, Nothing But The Truth, Juliet's Story, Romeo and Juliet*

Parents, please print this page and send to school with your child.

Accelerated Reader Signature Page

We have read and understand the requirements set forth for Accelerated Reader for the 2024-25 school year.

_____ **Student Signature**

_____ **Parent Signature**

Printed Student Name: _____

Student's Homeroom teacher: _____