

# Aquinas Academy

## Accelerated Reader Enterprise

2010-2011



### Helping Our Students Read to Succeed

Accelerated Reader Enterprise is a web-based software program that your child will be using at school. Aquinas Academy has purchased a subscription service that enables our students to have access to more than 140,000 quizzes—plus all new reading practice quizzes as they are created. In addition, our primary grade students have access to recorded voice quizzes.

Because our administration and teachers feel strongly about reading success, Aquinas Academy has devoted free reading time during the morning and/or afternoon of most school days. We believe that if students are given more time to practice their reading skills, even those reluctant readers will find success and develop a sense of literature appreciation.

#### Getting Started

All students in grades 1-8 will be given the STAR reading assessment (a computer-generated, multiple-choice quiz) during the first semester. This is a tool that will help determine each child's reading level.

Each reading/literature teacher will set monthly or semester grade level reading requirements for students.

Students select books from the school library, public library or personal/home library based on interest and reading level.

Parents and students are encouraged to make sure that a quiz is available for his/her book before reading. Please visit the following websites to check for quiz availability, book, interest and point levels:

[www.renlearn.com/store](http://www.renlearn.com/store)

OR

[www.arbookfind.com](http://www.arbookfind.com)

After completing a book independently or with adult assistance, students visit the school library or school computer lab to take a short multiple-choice, computer-generated quiz.

After completing the quiz, a report can be generated that provides the student, parent, and teacher with immediate feedback highlighting the quiz score, points earned, and total number of words read.

#### What are book levels?

Book levels represent the difficulty of the text. Levels are reported using the ATOS readability formula. For example, a book of 4.5 means the text could likely be read independently by a student whose reading skills are at the level of a typical fourth grader during the fifth month of school. However, the content may or may not be appropriate which is why the interest level of books are included.

#### What is interest level?

Interest level is based on content—a book's theme and ideas—and indicates for which age group a book is appropriate. The three categories include: LG=lower grades (K-3); MG= middle grades (4-8); and UG=upper grades (9-12).

#### How can I check my child's AR quiz scores?

A TOPS report or summary of all quizzes taken in a particular marking period can be generated and taken home by your child OR you can access your child's AR information in Renaissance Place Home Connect from any web-enabled computer. During the first semester, students will be given a letter directed to parents/guardians that have specific, detailed information included that will direct families who are interested in accessing their child's AR progress online.

#### What can parents do to help their child succeed?

Parents can help their child achieve reading success by offering encouragement and providing quiet reading time at home each day. Regardless of a child's age or grade level, reading at home with family members, and even observing these adults reading, is an important factor in developing proficient readers.

#### Further Information

Please visit the following website and read *A Parent's Guide to Accelerated Reader*:  
<http://ar.renlearn.com/info/>

Additional questions should be referred to your child's reading/literature teacher or the school librarian.

AQUINAS ACADEMY

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Greensburg, PA 15601

724.834.7940

## Inside Heading



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