

How can you support your child in reading? (Years 2-6)

AR Home Connect

The first thing we'd ask you to do is sign up for home Connect, which helps you to stay in touch with how your child is progressing with Accelerated Reader. This really aids communication between home and school and can kick start conversations to help parents to discuss reading with their children.

The first great feature is that every parent or carer who signs up for Home Connect (and you can have up to six email

addresses attached to each child's account!) receives an email every time their child quizzes on a book. This allows parents to celebrate successes but also to talk to their child if the quiz didn't go so well – particularly if you've been reading the book together!

The second feature is that you can log onto the website together to get a complete rundown of all the different books they've been reading and quizzing on. You can see what their points target is and how close they are to hitting it. You can also see all of the books that they've quizzed on which is really useful if you're choosing new books at home or at the library.

If you've already signed up for this feature then thank you very much. We hope you find it a useful tool!

Reading at home together every day

Life is busy. Life is *really* busy at times. But reading with a child for at least 10 minutes every day is the most important things you can do to help them in school. On the following page you'll find

some guidance on how to help your child with their comprehension skills. If you have any questions, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher.

The screenshot shows the Renaissance Home Connect™ dashboard for Accelerated Reader. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'reading' and 'maths'. Below this, the user is identified as 'Accelerated Reader' and the page is titled 'Reading Practice Quizzes' and 'Vocabulary Practice Quizzes'. The main section is 'My Overall Progress' for the period 01/06/2017 - 31/07/2018 (9% Complete). It features three progress bars: 'Quizzes' at 90% (average % correct, target 85), 'Points' at 2.7 (192.9% of target, target 1.4), and 'ATOS Book Level' at 4.6 (average level, target 3). Each bar is accompanied by an 'Above Target' star icon. Below the progress bars, it shows 'Quizzes Passed/Taken: 1/1' and 'Word Count: 19,556'. The 'Reader Certifications' section indicates the user has 'Last Achieved: Ready Reader' on 01/09/2017 (earned 5 points) and has a 'Current Target: Super Reader' (read 3 books independently, ATOS BL: 2.0 or higher, Worth: 3). A 'My Last Quiz' section shows a score of 10 of 10 (100%) for the book 'Cat Crazy' by Lucy Daniels (ATOS Book Level: 3.9, Interest Level: Lower Years). At the bottom, there is a 'Find Books' section with the AR™ BookFinder™ logo and a link to 'Click to Open in New Window'.

How to Support Your Child's Reading at Home



At BPS, Reading VIPERS are used to support children with their reading comprehension skills. It would be brilliant if you could also refer to VIPERS when listening to your child read at home.

We introduce reading VIPERS to children in Key Stage 2. If your child is in Key Stage 1 they may not be familiar with the VIPERS terminology, however the question stems provided below will still be relevant and accessible to them.

What are Vipers?

VIPERS is an acronym to aid the recall of the six reading domains as part of the UK's reading curriculum. They are the key areas which we feel children need to know and understand in order to improve their comprehension of texts.

What does VIPERS stand for?

Vocabulary - the words used in a text

Inference - a conclusion or opinion reached on the basis of evidence and reasoning

Prediction – estimation of what will happen in the future based on previous reading

Explanation - describing in more detail, saying why something has happened

Retrieval - find or extract key information

Sequence or Summarise – arrange in chronological order or give a brief statement of the main points

How do I use VIPERS?

VIPERS can be used on any text that a child is reading. Below are some examples of how you can create your own questions to ask your child using the following question openers. These questions can be asked at the end of, or during your reading session. You do not need to record any of your answers, just having the discussions would be great!

KS1 Question Openers

Vocabulary Find and explain the meaning of words in context. 	Infer Make and justify inferences using evidence from the text. 	Predict Predict what will happen based on the details given or implied. 	Explain Explain how content is related and contributed to the meaning as a whole. Explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of language. Explain the themes and patterns that develop across the text. Explain how information contributes to the overall experience. 	Retrieve Retrieve and record information and identify key details from fiction and non-fiction. 	Summarise Summarise the main ideas from more than one paragraph. 
Example questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do the words and suggest about the character, setting and mood? • Which word tells you that.....? • Which keyword tells you about the character/setting/mood? • Find one word in the text which means..... • Find and highlight the word that is closest in meaning to..... • Find a word or phrase which shows/suggests that..... 	Example questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find and copy a group of words which show that... • How do these words make the reader feel? How does this paragraph suggest this? • How do the descriptions of show that they are • How can you tell that..... • What impression of do you get from these paragraphs? • What voice might these characters use? • What was thinking when..... • Who is telling the story? 	Example questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the cover what do you think this text is going to be about? • What is happening now? What happened before this? What will happen after? • What does this paragraph suggest will happen next? What makes you think this? • Do you think the choice of setting will influence how the plot develops? • Do you think... will happen? Yes, no or maybe? Explain your answer using evidence from the text. 	Example questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is the text arranged in this way? • What structures has the author used? • What is the purpose of this text feature? • Is the use of effective? • The mood of the character changes throughout the text. Find and copy the phrases which show this. • What is the author's point of view? • What affect does have on the audience? • How does the author engage the reader here? • Which words and phrases did effectively? • Which section was the most interesting/exciting part? • How are these sections linked? 	Example questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How would you describe this story/text? What genre is it? How do you know? • How did...? • How often...? • Who had...? Who is...? Who did...? • What happened to...? • What does... do? • How is • What can you learn from from this section? • Give one example of..... • The story is told from whose perspective? 	Example questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you number these events 1-5 in the order that they happened? • What happened after • What was the first thing that happened in the story? • Can you summarise in a sentence the opening/middle/end of the story? • In what order do these chapter headings come in the story?

KS2 Question Openers

Vocabulary Draw upon knowledge of vocabulary in order to understand the text. 	Infer Make inferences from the text. 	Predict Predict what you think will happen based on the information that you have been given. 	Explain Explain your preferences, thoughts and opinions about the text. 	Retrieve Identify and explain the key features of fiction and non-fiction texts such as: characters, events, titles and information. 	Sequence Sequence the key events in the story. 
Example questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does the word mean in this sentence? • Find and copy a word, which means • What does this word or phrase tell you about.....? • Which word in this section do you think is the most important? Why? • Which of the words best describes the character/setting/mood etc? • Can you think of any other words the author could have used to describe this? • Why do you think is repeated in this section? 	Example questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why was..... feeling.....? • Why did happen? • Why did say • Can you explain why.....? • What do you think the author intended when they said.....? • How does make you feel? 	Example questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at the book cover/blurb - what do you think this book will be about? • What do you think will happen next? What makes you think this? • How does the choice of character or setting affect what will happen next? • What is happening? What do you think happened before? What do you think will happen after? • What do you think the last paragraph suggests will happen next? 	Example questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is your favourite character? Why? • Why do you think all the main characters are girls in this book? • Would you like to live in this setting? Why/why not? • Is there anything you would change about this story? • Do you like this text? What do you like about it? 	Example questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What kind of text is this? • Who did.....? • Where did.....? • When did.....? • What happened when.....? • Why did happen? • How did • How many.....? • What happened to.....? 	Example questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you number these events 1-5 in the order that they happened? • What happened after • What was the first thing that happened in the story? • Can you summarise in a sentence the opening/middle/end of the story? • In what order do these chapter headings come in the story?