

READING - THE KEY TO SUCCESS

For more information on our school library and to find out more about what is available via our dedicated library website by clicking onto quick links on the school website.

The importance of reading for all children

Current national figures suggest that 1 in 4 children are leaving primary school without achieving expected levels in reading, and many of those are then leaving secondary school with functional illiteracy (not having the literacy needed for most jobs and many everyday situations.). Studies have shown that GCSE exam papers require a reading age of 15 years and 7 months, presenting a significant barrier to pupils without that expected reading age.

A child's reading age should ideally match or exceed their chronological age, and it is important we do all we can to support pupils in achieving that. Multiple studies suggest that:

- Reading for between 19 and 24 minutes per day = continued progress in their reading age (reading age increases)
- Less than 19 mins a day = abilities stagnate (reading age stays the same)
- Less than 3 minutes per day = reading regression (reading age lowers)

Helping at home:

Parents/ guardians have suggested to us that as their children have grown up and become more competent readers, they have felt less need to read with them, as they have required less and less support over time. This is completely normal, but there is no reason why reading together shouldn't continue and we encourage our parents to get involved in their child's reading again. Below are tips for how you can read with your child, this doesn't have to be done every day but once a week is ideal.

Tips for reading:

Understanding vocabulary/ pronunciation

When your child struggles to pronounce a word, you could break it down with them and allow them to have a go at pronouncing it. If they continue to struggle then pronounce it for them and ask them to repeat the correct pronunciation.

If you notice a word that your child may not know, even though they read it accurately, ask them if they know what it means and what it means in the context of what they are reading. E.g.

Parent/ Guardian: "What do you think the word 'illuminate' means?"

Child: "It means to light up."

Parent/ Guardian: "That's right so, what does it mean in that sentence '*the moon illuminated the empty streets*'?"

Child: "It shows that the moon lit up the streets so it might mean there aren't any street lights or houses with the lights on."

Parent: "That's what I think to."

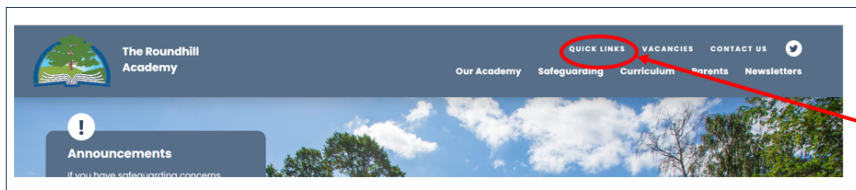
If they don't know either give them the definition or look up the definition together online or ask your smart speaker. Then ask them again what does that word mean in the context of what they are reading. This teaches them that it's ok and normal to not know every single word in the English language but it also models ways in which they can find out new words.

Comprehension:

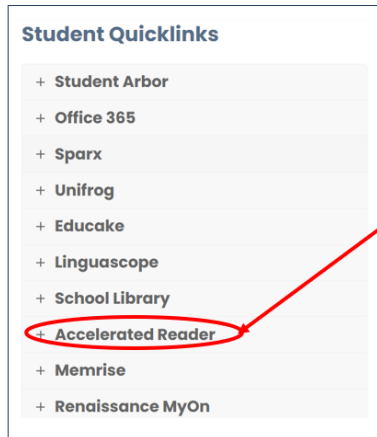
After reading a page or two stop and ask questions about the setting or characters:

- What do you notice about the setting? How does the writer want you to feel about...?
- What tone does the setting create?
- How do you think the character feels? Why do you think that?
- How do you think the character will react to? Why do you think that?

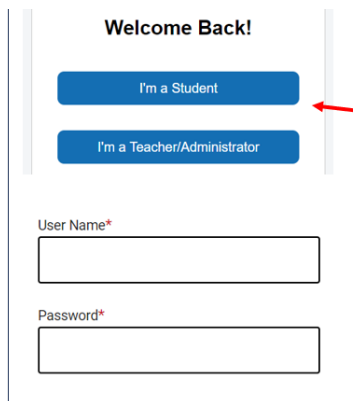
If your child is not answering correctly, it is important that you correct them by asking why they thought that and then explain what you think and why.



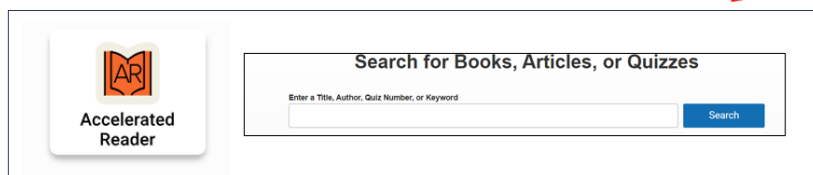
Step one: Go onto the school website and click onto the quick links.



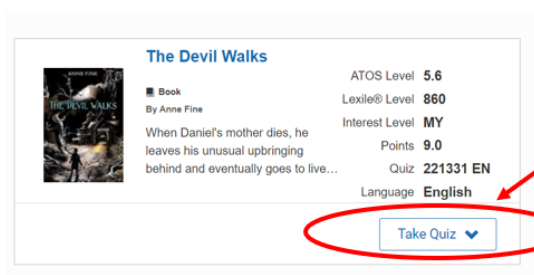
Step two: click on to accelerated read and then on the icon.



Step three: click onto 'I'm a student' then enter the login details:
Username: First initial surname
E.g. smoore
Password: date of birth dd/mm/yyyy
E.g. 01/01/2007



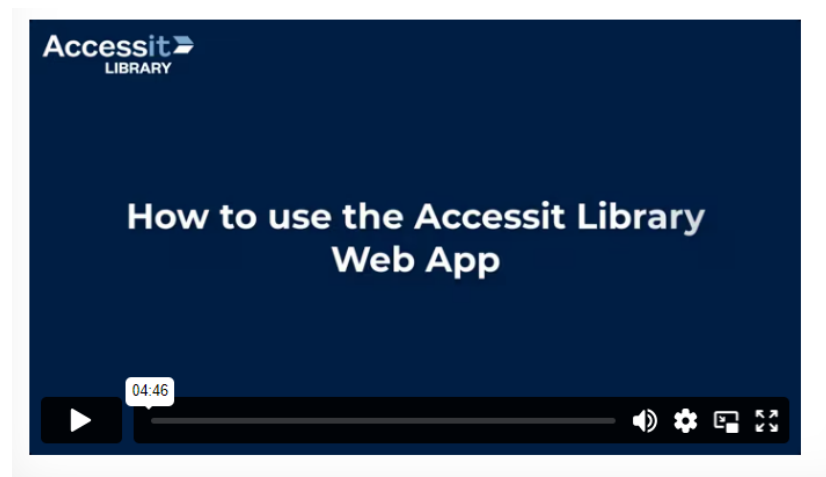
Step four: click onto the Accelerated reader icon and then search for the book/article you want to quiz on.



Select 'Take the Quiz'
Tips: If you don't know the answer to a question, let it time out. Do not just guess. This will affect the data that is generated.

We recommend that children read for around 20 minutes per day, averaging around 2.5 hours per week. Pupils should be reading extended fiction or non-fiction texts during this time. Each student has a reading record to enable them to log their reading, and we'd be grateful for your encouragement and support as they fill this in. We ask that pupils then take some time to reflect on their reading and their book choices and submit a review to their teacher, or to the librarian.

AccessIt allows pupils to browse titles, borrow ebooks, add reviews and manage their reading lists 24/7. The app can be downloaded to their mobile phones for reading on the go. AccessIt has an up-to-date list of the library's stock, including our collection of 'Top 20' titles for each year group. There is a video on how to use AccessIt on our fantastic school library website which you can also go onto through quick links on the school website.



STAR reading Test:

At Roundhill academy we test all KS3 students using STAR reading tests four times each academic year to allow us to track and monitor students' reading ages. We use this information to put into place interventions or to signal further monitoring. Up to date reading ages are shared with all teachers to help them plan lessons and ensure all students can access the curriculum. Reading ages will also be shared with you at parents' evenings and on the school reports.