

Blue Oak Elementary 

A closer look at

Accelerated Reader



What is Accelerated Reader?

Accelerated Reader is the number one software program (or tool) that helps manage reading practice, monitor daily progress, and plan instruction.

The How In 3 Easy Steps

**Students
take the STAR
to find their
ZPD.**

**Student
read an AR
book in
their ZPD.**

**Students
take an
online
quiz.**

ZPD = Zone of Proximal Development which is the suggested grade level that will slightly challenge each student but not be so difficult the student will become frustrated.

Quizzes are designed to test comprehension.

What are the goals of AR?

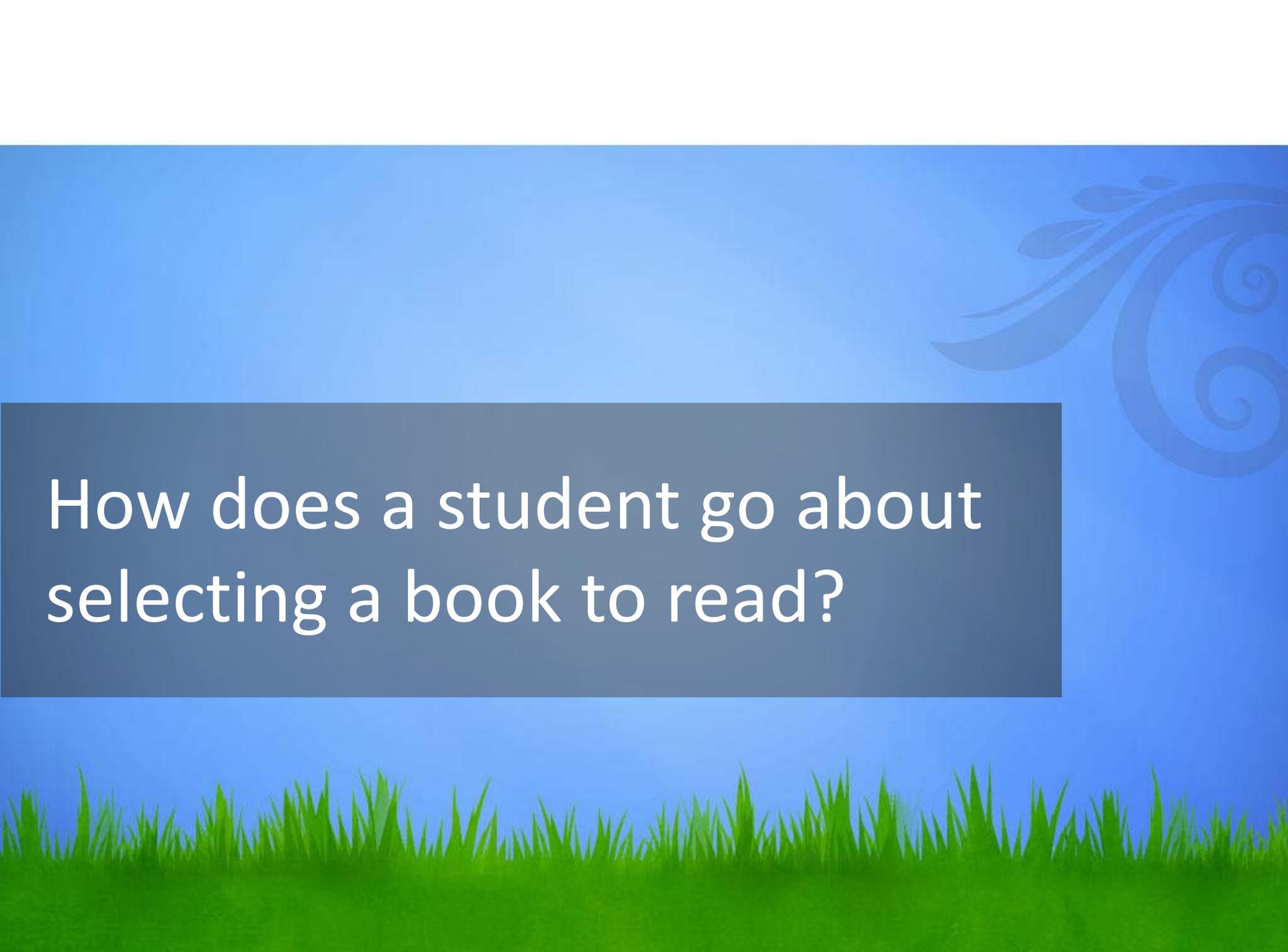
1. Accelerate growth in the reading ability of all students.
2. Foster a love of reading in all students.
3. Enable monitoring of reading progress.
4. Improve test scores.

What are the Advantages of AR?

- AR gets students excited about reading and vocabulary. Students will be motivated to read constantly. They will read carefully, thoroughly, and eager for more.
- All students are challenged without being frustrated because they are reading at **their** level.
- With each book read, data on student's reading comprehension, vocabulary development, literacy skills development, and more will be generated and accessible. This data will be used to help students become better readers.

More about the STAR

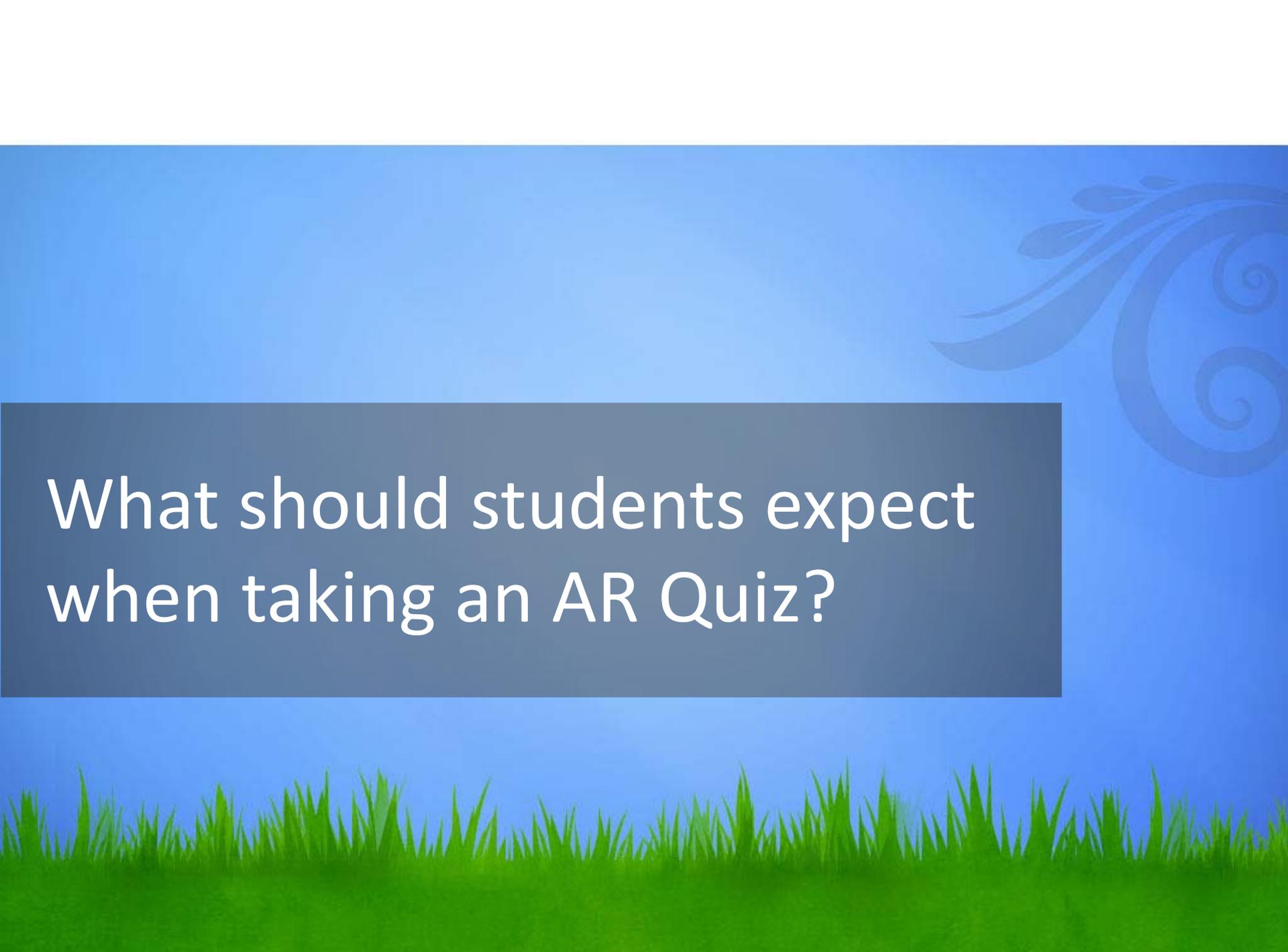
- The STAR is a computer based assessment designed to determine a student's overall reading ability.
- It is also used to measure growth as it should be administered 3 times a year.
- Question difficulty is based on previous answer (computer adaptive). Meaning as a student answers questions correctly the questions become more difficult.
- The quiz itself takes only a few minutes to administer.



How does a student go about selecting a book to read?

Most books are AR books

- There are over 140,000 quizzes accessible to students. That means over 140,000 books are AR books and the number is continually growing.
- Books in the school library and several classroom libraries are identified as AR books with a colored sticker accompanied by the grade level and point value.
- If a student wants to see if a particular book is identified as an AR book he or she can use the AR book finder website at www.arbookfind.com.



What should students expect
when taking an AR Quiz?

Quiz Information

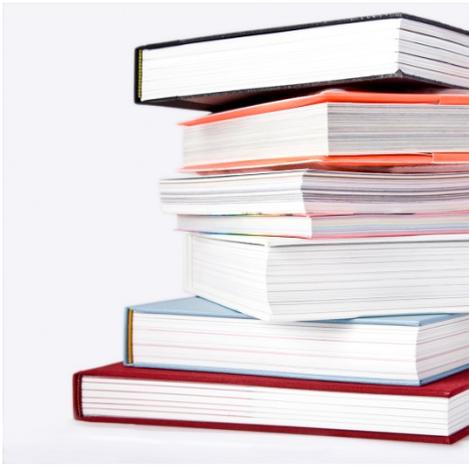
- Quizzes are meant to see if a book was read, not to pose difficult questions.
- The goal for all students is to score 80%, if scores are consistently lower than 80% students should look at reading a lower level book, and if scores are consistently higher than 80% students should look at reading a higher level book.
- Points are prorated based on the % scored on the quiz. Students earn no points for a failed quiz.
- Quizzes can be 5, 10, or 20 multiple choice questions.

More Quiz Information

- Quiz questions are the same for all students, but the order is often scrambled.
- Students may not retake a quiz for a better score.
- Accelerated Reader keeps track of quiz scores, points earned, and book levels.
- Students will be allowed to take quizzes during the designated AR time at the school site.
- Quizzes must be taken on site with a teacher present.
- After each quiz students should print out a TOPS report and give it to their teacher.

“Books are the bees which carry the quickening pollen from one to another mind.”

-James Russell Lowell



Some Things To Remember!

- While time is given at school to read, reading can be done at home as well.
- **Reading regularly increases reading stamina.**
- Reading can be done independently and by someone reading to the student (teacher, parent, sibling, etc.)
- **Good Reading should also be appropriate reading material.**
- Improvement in reading ability impacts all curriculum areas.

For more information
please refer to the
following resources:

AR Website

www.renlearn.com/ar/

Blue Oak Website

[www.boes-buckeye-
ca.schoolloop.com](http://www.boes-buckeye-ca.schoolloop.com)

Final Thoughts

With the large amounts of reading practice students receive through AR, research has discovered an increase in the mastery of standards with students who have used AR.

As students experience success, enthusiasm for reading spreads to all subjects. Teachers using AR report higher attendance, fewer discipline problems, and improved attitudes about school.