

## **ACCELERATED READER**

Dear Families,

We are very proud to be an Accelerated Reader school. We pride ourselves in fostering a love of reading and improving our students' comprehension. At Desert Springs we consistently look at how we can improve our programs to be most effective for student achievement. With Accelerated Reader we see the need to more clearly communicate with families what AR is all about, how the AR prizes work, and what the expectations are for quizzes. Please read through the information and the attached agreement with your child. Return the 'Accelerated Reader Agreement for Success' to your child's classroom teacher. I look forward to continuing the Accelerated Reader adventure with you and your child.

Thank you,

Mrs. Scott, Principal

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### **DESERT SPRINGS PREPARATORY AR BASICS**

- STAR reading tests are given four times a year to determine your student's independent reading zone. The zone is a range of reading levels that helps your student select books they can read independently and then successfully complete an AR test on the computer.
- To promote your child's success in AR the books your student reads at home, checks out from the library, reads at school and takes tests on all need to be in their reading zone. AR books from the Desert Springs Library have the reading level, points, and the quiz number inside the book. At home you can find the zone of a book using this website – [www.arbookfind.com](http://www.arbookfind.com).
- The easiest way to find the test for a book is to use the quiz number. If your student is using an AR folder it has a log sheet, which allows your student to record the quiz number and title of each book they are reading.
- Each classroom has procedures for taking AR tests. It is recommended your student take the AR test as soon as possible after completing a book.
- AR Home Connect is a wonderful way to follow your child's progress on AR tests. Letters have been sent home for each student with their user name, password, and directions to sign up to receive an email each time your student takes a test. This sign up continues with them each year so you can check if a student may have already taken a test. If you can't find the letter sent home please request another one.
- If your student meets their goal before the quarter is over they need to continue to read. They can read just for fun, but AR tests can only be taken in their zone, unless teacher permission has been given.

- Lastly, every child has a minimum comprehension goal of 85% (90% in honors). If they aren't achieving this level of accuracy reading the book twice before testing may help. Also, keeping a simple journal for the book describing what was read each day can also help improve accuracy.
- The AR program has been very successful at Desert Springs Preparatory. Last year all students participating in the AR program read over 185,000,000 words and 11,945 books.

### **Accelerated Reader Prize Requirements**

- The average for AR tests must be 85% or higher accuracy (90% or higher in honors) to receive a prize.
- Medallions will be given to students who make their AR point goal all four quarters with at least 85% accuracy for each quarter.
- A trophy will be given for reading a minimum of 1,000,000 words with 85% or higher accuracy.
- A trophy will be given for reading a minimum of 2,000,000 words with 85% or higher accuracy.
- A trophy will be given to the student who has read the highest number of words with 85% or higher accuracy.
- Each quarter the students' who have made their AR point goal with 85% accuracy will have their names displayed in the library.

Please return to your child's teacher.

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Accelerated Reader Agreement For Success**

1. I understand that tests may only be taken in the library, in the computer lab, or in the classroom with your teacher's permission.
2. I will show honesty by only taking tests under my own login information
3. I understand I cannot help other students with their AR quizzes.
4. I understand I cannot talk during testing or talk to students who are testing.
5. I will show respect for myself and all other students by honoring the Accelerated reader rules.

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STUDENT SIGNATURE

I have read and understand the Accelerated Reader rules for my child. If this agreement is broken the teacher will apply classroom and school discipline.

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PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE