

San Jose Christian School



ARP HANDBOOK (Accelerated Reader Program)

Requirements and Forms

Grades 1 - 8

Accelerated Reader Program (ARP) is offered to our students to encourage good and enjoyable reading habits. The program is available as a Web Database with students able to access at school the test for any available title. The URL www.arbookfind.com lists the reading level and points of over 100,000 titles. Books are available in the school library or parents can assist their student in selecting one from their local library or store. Students earn ARP points for their successful completion. The point value depends on the reading level and size of the book. ARP points determine 25% of the reading grade for 3rd through 5th grade and 15% for 6th through 8th. Additionally, the points can be redeemed in the ARP store on a regular basis.

ARP Grading Scale for Grades 3-8

Points Required to Earn Various Grades

	3rd grade	4th grade	5th grade	6th grade	7th grade	8th grade
A	8 and Up	10 and Up	12 and Up	14 and Up	16 and Up	18 and Up
A-	7.2 - 7.9	9.0 - 9.9	10.8 - 11.9	12.6 - 13.9	14.4 - 15.9	16.2 - 17.9
B+	7.0 - 7.1	8.7 - 8.9	10.4 - 10.7	12.2 - 12.5	13.9 - 14.3	15.6 - 16.1
B+	6.6 - 6.9	8.3 - 8.6	10.0 - 10.3	11.6 - 12.1	13.3 - 13.8	14.9 - 15.5
B-	6.4 - 6.5	8.0 - 8.2	9.6 - 9.9	11.2 - 11.5	12.8 - 13.2	14.4 - 14.8
C+	6.2 - 6.3	7.7 - 7.9	9.2 - 9.5	10.8 - 11.1	12.3 - 12.7	13.9 - 14.3
C	5.8 - 6.1	7.3 - 7.6	8.8 - 9.1	10.2 - 10.7	11.7 - 12.2	13.1 - 13.8
C-	5.6 - 5.7	7.0 - 7.2	8.4 - 8.7	9.8 - 10.1	11.2 - 11.5	12.6 - 13.0
D+	5.4 - 5.5	6.7 - 6.9	8.0 - 8.3	9.4 - 9.7	10.7 - 11.1	12.1 - 12.6
D	5.0 - 5.3	6.3 - 6.6	7.6 - 7.9	8.8 - 9.3	10.1 - 10.6	11.3 - 12.0
D-	4.8 - 4.9	6.0 - 6.2	7.2 - 7.5	8.4 - 8.7	9.6 - 10.0	10.8 - 11.2
F	4.7 and Below	5.9 and Below	7.1 and Below	8.3 and Below	9.5 and Below	10.7 and Below

First Grade

1. ARP does not start until 2nd quarter.
2. ARP is not part of the students' reading grade.
3. Points are used for store shopping only.
4. ARP or non-ARP books may be read.
5. The student may read books, parents may read *with* their child, parents may read *to* their child, or student may use audio books.
6. Reading Log is sent home for parents to record the books read, along with the number of minutes & pages. 1 point is awarded for every 30 minutes of reading.
7. A book report (form provided by teacher) may be completed in order to earn 1 extra ARP point.
8. Students do not take ARP tests.
9. In-class reading does not count toward a student's ARP points.

Second Grade

1. ARP is NOT part of the students' reading grade.
2. Points are used for store shopping only.
3. ARP or non-ARP books may be read.
4. The student may read books, parents may read *with* their child, parents may read *to* their child, or student may use audio books.
5. Reading Log is sent home for parents to record the books read, along with the number of minutes & pages. 1 point is awarded for every 30 minutes of reading.
6. A book report (form provided by teacher) may be completed in order to earn 1 extra ARP point.
7. Teachers teaching second graders, as a class, how to take the computerized ARP tests, but the tests are optional.

Third Grade

1. ARP is 25% of the reading grade.
2. 8 points are required for an A. (See grading scale)
3. At the beginning of the year each student fills out a ARP contract and is assigned a password.
4. Instruction on how to take ARP tests is given by the technology teacher during the first month of school.
5. Students are allowed to read a maximum of 2 years below grade level. There is no limit to above grade level reading.
6. The student may read books, parents may read *with* their child, or parents may read *to* their child, or student may use audio books.
7. Book reports may be completed instead of taking the computerized test (see book report requirements and form).
8. Reading non-ARP books does not meet the ARP requirements.

Fourth-Fifth Grade

1. ARP is 25% of the reading grade.
2. At the beginning of the year each student fills out an ARP contract and is assigned a password.
3. Students are allowed to read maximum of 2 years below grade level. There is no limit to above grade level reading.
4. The student may read books, parents may read *with* their child, parents may read *to* their child, or the student may use audio books.
5. The Buddy System is used to teach new students how to take ARP tests.
6. Once each quarter, book reports may be completed instead of taking the computerized test (see requirements).
 - a) Point value determined by teacher.
 - b) One non-ARP book is allowed per quarter.
Non-ARP points may not be used at the ARP store.
7. Point Requirements Per Quarter (see grading scale for further details)
 - 4th grade—10 points for an “A”
 - 5th grade—12 points for an “A”
8. At least 50% of a student’s earned ARP points each quarter must be from personal reading, not books read aloud by the teacher in class.

Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grade

1. ARP is 15% of the literature grade.
2. At the beginning of the year each student fills out an ARP contract and is assigned a password.
3. The student may read books, parents may read *with* their child, parents may read *to* their child, or student may use *approved* audio books.
4. Students in 6th and 7th grade must read books from levels 4 and up. Students in 8th grade must read books from levels 5 and up.
5. The Buddy System is used to teach new students how to take ARP tests.
6. Book reports may be completed instead of taking the computerized test, if approved by the teacher ahead of time (see requirements).
 - a) The classroom teacher must approve the book prior to the student reading the book. The form for this approval is available from the Language Arts teacher. The completed form must be attached to the book report.
 - b) The point value of the book is determined by the teacher.
 - c) One non-ARP book is allowed per quarter, but non-ARP points may not be used at the ARP store.
7. Point Requirement Per Grade (See grading scale)
 - 6th grade—14 points for an A
 - 7th grade—16 points for an A
 - 8th grade—18 points for an A

BOOK REPORT REQUIREMENTS

1st and 2nd grade (for extra point) – Report forms provided by teacher

3rd grade – Report form provided by teacher

1. Name of book and author
2. Main characters
3. 5-10 sentences about what happened in the story
4. Favorite part of the story

4th/5th grade – No Report form provided

1. Name of book and author
2. Main characters-describe their character/role
3. Where does the story take place? Describe
4. When does the story take place?
5. What is the basic story line?
6. What you liked/disliked about this book?
7. Minimum of one page (handwritten) or page (typed-double spaced-12 font)

6th, 7th, and 8th grade (2 pages typed, double-spaced)

1. Begin with an inviting introduction paragraph using one of the following methods:
 - a) quote from the book and respond to it.
 - b) ask a question of the reader
 - c) Introduce the main or a favorite character as if you were introducing a friend.
(In your paragraph, be sure to mention the Name of the Book and the author's name. Tell the genre of the story, and briefly mention the name of the series if it is part of one.)
2. Describe the plot of a story by including the use of 2 - 3 descriptive sentences for each point listed below.
 - a) The exposition: What is the setting and who are the main characters?
 - b) The rising action: What is the conflict and how does it become more intense?
 - c) The climax: major event or conflict in the story
 - d) The falling action: How do things begin to work out?.
 - e) The resolution: How is the problem resolved, or how does it work out?
3. Describe your reaction to the book by including a 2 - 4 sentence answer to at least one of the following:
 - a) What feelings or emotions did you feel while reading the story? (sadness, frustration, excitement, suspense...) What caused you to feel these ways?
 - a) What lessons or insights did you learn from this book?
 - b) What issue(s) would you like to discuss with the author or one of the characters after reading this book? First describe what event(s) in the book led to this insight?

BOOK REPORT

3rd grade

Student's Name: _____

Name of book: _____

Author: _____ Number of pages: _____

The main characters in the book are _____

Write 5-10 sentences that tell what happened in the book.

What was your favorite part of the book?

Book Report Request Form (6th-8th Grade)

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

Book Title: _____

Author: _____

Number of pages: _____

Brief summary: _____

Why you want to read it: _____

Have your parents seen your book choice? _____

I understand that I must follow the book report guidelines and that point value will be given based on how I follow those requirements.

Student Signature

Date

Teacher Signature

Date

Point Value (determined by Teacher)

ACCELERATED READER HONOR CODE
(Not applicable for 1st and 2nd grade students)

Mutual trust between students and teachers is extremely important. To help build trust with the use of the *Accelerated Reader Program*, our school has established the following Honor Code:

1. No student will unfairly advance his or her own performance in the *Accelerated Reader* program.
2. No student will in any way intentionally limit or advance the performance of fellow students using the *Accelerated Reader*.

San Jose Christian School strongly believes in this Honor Code. The students signing this pledge agree with and support the Honor Code and are expected to report suspected violators of the Honor Code. The scope of actions that fall under this code is very broad. The following actions are examples of what is considered as cheating.

1. Giving or receiving questions or answers from an *Accelerated Reader* test, or in any way cheating on an *Accelerated Reader* test.
2. Using Cliff Notes, classic comic books, movies, videos, or shortened or abridged versions of the books on the *Accelerated Reader* book list to try to pass the test.
3. Using any means besides reading the full, unabridged version of the book to pass an *Accelerated Reader* test. Audio books, reading with an adult or an adult reading to the student is allowed.
4. Not reading the entire book before taking a test.
5. These are only examples, therefore cheating is not limited to the above examples.

MAINTENANCE

An honor system provides students freedom, convenience, and privileges that wouldn't otherwise be possible. It promotes an atmosphere for learning without constantly being watched. The system requires all students to accept the responsibility of maintaining high standards. Each student must accept the responsibilities of the Honor System.

MECHANICS

Any student suspecting a violation may (a) confront the accused and see that this person reports himself/herself, or (b) report it to the teacher involved.

PENALTY

Willful violation of the Honor Code will result in suspension of the student from participating in the *Accelerated Reader* program.

STUDENT PLEDGE

At the beginning of the school year each student will sign the following pledge:

“I hereby state that I understand the Honor Code with regard to the use of the *Accelerated Reader* program. I understand that cheating is wrong and will result in suspension from participation in the *Accelerated Reader* program.”

PARENT PLEDGE & PERMISSION

1. At the beginning of the school year, a parent/guardian will be asked to sign the following pledge:
“I hereby state that I understand the Honor Code with regard to the use of the *Accelerated Reader* program. I will do my best to encourage my child to respect the spirit of this program and adhere to its rules, regulations, and consequences.”
2. Permission to check out a Playaway (audio book). Replacement cost is \$70 if lost or damaged.
 I give my child permission I do NOT give my child permission

Parent/Guardian Signature

Student Signature

Date

Print Student Name: _____ Grade: _____ Personal ID Password: _____

Select a Personal ID Password, up to 5 characters long. This is needed so the student can begin taking tests.