



# AR Handbook

## Peachtree City Elementary School

2006 - 2007



# **PEACHTREE CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL READING RENAISSANCE**

## **Introduction**

Peachtree City Elementary School is dedicated to providing the best education for our students. Reading is fundamental in our society and for our student's development as they progress through school. We use many tools and programs, such as Accelerated Reader, in our reading instruction to motivate and individualize reading progress for each student.

Reading Renaissance's Accelerated Reader Program is an integral part of Peachtree City Elementary's Reading Program. Peachtree City Elementary School was the first Reading Renaissance school in Fayette County. Reading Renaissance supports our reading beliefs and embraces the philosophy that readers should be reading daily in self-selected material at appropriate reading levels, zones of proximal development (ZPD), as well as setting personal reading goals. Reading Renaissance recommends that reading goals should vary depending on grade level; should be individualized; should encourage self-directed learning; and should be ambitious yet attainable. Asking students to take responsibility for their individualized reading goals is putting PCES's reading philosophy into action. Testing for reading comprehension enables readers to monitor their individual growth and holds readers accountable for material read. *New research strongly links students' reading growth to averaging at least 85% accuracy on Reading Practice quizzes. Averages in the 90% range lead to even greater growth.*

PCES's reading program is evolving and changing yearly to reflect the needs of its students. In the spring of 1998, we revised our Reading Renaissance Accelerated Reader Program (AR) in an effort to individualize reading support and promote academic gains for all our students. Research has demonstrated a strong positive correlation between AR and overall academic achievement. Peachtree City Elementary has attributed much of our students' academic growth to the use of AR and Success Maker. According to research, the longer a school participates in AR the greater the academic growth it experiences. In order for students to make gains in reading vocabulary and reading comprehension levels, students must be actively reading. AR is a voluntary reading incentive program in all kindergarten through fourth grade classrooms. AR cannot impact a K-4 student's reading grade. AR scores will not exceed 10% of a fifth grade student's reading grade for any nine week grading period.

The Accelerated Reader Program promotes reading not as an end to itself, but as a way to build readers for life. Life long readers read to gain information, to follow directions, to make something, to relax, or to learn about community events. AR is designed to support individual reader's needs and interests by offering a wide variety of reading genres and individualized goals. Our Media Center now offers over 16,000 AR fiction and non-fiction titles and over 7,847 tests. Additionally, students, teachers, and parents are encouraged to request AR tests for any book title. Tests are ordered on a weekly basis and can be put into our AR computer system within 24 hours of ordering. This large collection of reading titles and support for AR was enhanced as a result of past Reading First money, and Fayette County funds for PCES. Our PTO contributions fund our AR student reading incentives. Media Center funds as well as Book Fair profits, and our *Loose Change* campaign support the acquisition of new AR titles and quizzes.

## **ACCELERATED READER TESTING PROCEDURES**

*The Reading Committee has established the following guidelines and procedures to help teachers and parents guide Peachtree City Elementary students into becoming successful, independent readers with a lifelong love of reading.*

**NOTE:** The media center is open from 07:20 am until 02:30 pm for AR check out and testing. From 02:30~02:45 pm students may select AR books and test with a parent present. Students may not be checked out of school early in order to take AR tests with parents.

**Students:**

- ❖ Read or listen to a designated AR book.
- ❖ Enter book information in Reading Log.
- ❖ Get Reading Log initialed by a teacher or monitor.
- ❖ Test on an AR book read in the classroom or the Media Center.
  - ◆ Classroom Testing:
    - Follow a teacher's established classroom procedures.
  - ◆ Media Center Testing :
    - Limited to 2 students per classroom at one time.
    - Testing independently:
      - Show Reading Log initialed by your teacher to Media Center personnel before testing.
      - Use a computer assigned to AR.

**Teachers:**

- ❖ Establish classroom procedures for AR testing.
- ❖ Ensure that students are maintaining Reading Logs.
- ❖ Monitor, and adjust, as needed, individual student's ZPD.
- ❖ Assure that Reading Committee guidelines are being followed for Reading levels 2.0 and up.
  - ◆ AR testing is only on books within the student's ZPD. A student's maximum zone begins at a student's grade level and ends at the top of the tested ZPD. Exception to testing within ZPD are Grade Level Trade Books\*, books used for classroom instruction, and Battle of the Book Books.  
*\*Trade Books: Literature that is used for reading instruction.*
  - ◆ Students may read above their ZPD with their teacher's permission.
- ❖ Initial student's Reading Log after an AR book has been read.

**Trained Volunteer Parent/Monitors:**

- ❖ Assist students during the school day by :
  - ◆ Checking and helping students to maintain Reading Logs.
  - ◆ Reading tests to students that are not yet independent readers. (Indicate this on the AR computer test.)
    - ◆ Read the story to the children.
    - ◆ Parent volunteers are urged to remember that the student's comprehension is being tested. Please read each question and multiple choice answers without giving hints or telling students the correct answer.
    - ◆ Students need to remain with parent monitor for testing and have Reading Log initialed if applicable.
    - ◆ **A training session for parent volunteers will be provided.**

**Parent AR Support at Home:**

- ◆ You can read to and with your child or your child can read to you.
- ◆ Check your child's AR log whenever it comes home. Review and ask questions about the book.

## GOAL SETTING PROCEDURES

Together, students, teachers, and parents will set a yearly point goal based upon recommendations by their previous year's teacher and the suggested goal ranges. Remember that goals are meant to motivate and encourage progress. Students, who are unable to attain their goals in spite of their best efforts, should have their goals lowered to allow for success. Goals should be flexible and based on the individual needs of each student. Increasing the range of reading is our true goal.

Suggested student year goal ranges:

1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	25 – 50 *
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	35 – 60 *
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	45 – 70 *
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	55 – 80 *
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	65 +

### Monitor and Adjust:

AR research recommends, for any student who seems frustrated or discouraged because of failing to meet point goals, lowering these goals at any time during the marking period.

Remember that goals are meant to motivate and encourage progress. AR goals should NOT be automatically increased by teachers when a student has met the previously set goal. Instead, offer the student richer text and a reading experience not yet enjoyed by the young reader.

- ✓ Your child's yearly goal will be broken down into nine week goals in order to help students develop the lifeskill of planning ahead and setting short-term goals to achieve a larger goal.
- ✓ Please refer to your child's grade level introduction page to read specifics about goal setting at your grade level.

## HALL OF FAME PROCEDURES

Students' progress through *AR Certification Levels* is monitored and acknowledged using our Hall of Fame, located in the connecting hallway beside the courtyard. Each certification level will have a special banner display. Student growth will be updated and celebrated by moving student's individual picture badges from level to level and announcing student progress on the morning announcements, "*Paws for Applause*."

### Procedures for certifying students:

- ◆ Teachers and students follow AR testing procedures.
- ◆ Teachers will run Goal History reports on a weekly basis to monitor student progress and check on certification levels.
- ◆ Remember that students may only test **within** their ZPD. (Exception to testing within ZPD are Grade Level Trade Books, books used for classroom instruction, and Reading Invitational Books.)
- ◆ Teachers will turn in an announcement form to the Media Center for morning announcements.
- ◆ Classroom teachers will monitor the Hall of Fame and move students' pictures as needed.
- ◆ Teachers will present AR Certificates (or stickers), and chain and/or tags as students progress through the certification levels.

## READING LOG PROCEDURES

Reading Logs should be set up within the first three weeks of school after a student's ZPD has been established. All components of the Reading Log are filled out to keep an accurate record of a student's reading progress, to monitor testing, and to make sure the correct test is selected. Included in this handbook are samples of a primary level Reading Log and an intermediate level Reading Log.

### Reading Logs are used to:

- ◆ Track the progress of an individual student's reading activity.
- ◆ Determine when a student's ZPD needs to be adjusted.
- ◆ Ensure that students are taking tests only on books that are documented on their log.
- ◆ Assist teacher in monitoring books read in and out of their ZPD.
- ◆ Assist teacher in determining the method of reading. (Read to, Read with, or Read Independently)
- ◆ Allow students to test in the Media Center.
  - ◆ K and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students do not take tests in the Media Center without adult supervision.
  - ◆ 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students will bring the AR book and a Media Center pass to the Media Center for AR testing.
  - ◆ Grades 3 through 5 will use a Reading Log for the entire year. The Reading Log will be required in the Media Center for testing.

## ZONE OF PROXIMAL DEVELOPMENT (ZPD)

*If a child having a sixth-grade reading ability, reads a first-, second-, or third-grade level book, very little, if any, growth in reading ability is likely to occur. But as the material approaches the child's current reading ability, growth in reading ability occurs at an increasingly rapid rate, because the child is exposed to vocabulary and more difficult sentence construction which begin to stretch his/her ability. At some point, however, the vocabulary becomes too difficult, the sentence structure too complicated, and so it becomes increasingly harder for the child to create meaning. The point between unchallenging and frustratingly difficult text, the point at which maximum growth occurs, is the zone of proximal development or ZPD.*

*Fundamentals of Reading Renaissance, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition*

## READING ASSESSMENTS

**S.T.A.R.** (norm-referenced test) and/or the **DRA** (diagnostic reading assessment) will be used to determine each student's ZPD. These teacher-administered tests are given in September, January, and May, to monitor student progress and adjust individual student's ZPD, if needed. The student's maximum ZPD begins at the student's grade level and ends at the top of their tested ZPD.

## AR CERTIFICATION LEVELS

*Students will go through these levels once a year.*

**Cub** – 25% of yearly goal

**Super** – 50% of yearly goal

**Outstanding** – 75% of yearly goal

**Panther** – 100% of yearly goal

**All kindergarten classes** : PAW Certification

After reaching Panther, students in grades 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> may then work through Panther Plus, a program to introduce children to the different genres of literature.

**\*Panther Plus** is reached when students, who have already earned Panther Reader, complete AR quizzes from a variety of genres (6 different genres, 2 books in each genre). **Students must score 80% or higher in accuracy on each AR test taken for Panther Plus, as well as have maintained scores of 80% or higher for K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade and 85% or higher for 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade for all certification levels.**

**Panther Plus Genres:** Biographies; Newberry, Caldecott, or Georgia Book Awards; Mysteries; Science; Historical Fiction; Sports.

## AR PROGRESS REPORTS

K – Kindergarten teachers will send reports every 4 ½ weeks to update parents on students progress.

1<sup>st</sup> – First grade teachers will send weekly student reports.

2<sup>nd</sup> – Second grade teachers will send home weekly AR student reports. Teachers will also keep a log of these records on file for each student.

3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> - The upper grade teachers will send reports every 4 ½ weeks.

## AR CELEBRATION PROCEDURES

Throughout the year PCES students celebrate their AR success in reaching new certification levels with lanyards, hallway banners and morning announcements. One End of the Year Accelerated Reader Celebration will be held at the end of the last 9 week grading period to celebrate ALL levels of AR progress. Additionally, all our PCES readers participate in our AR Parade. Our PCES Advisory Committee will set the AR cut-off dates for each of the nine week periods. These dates are communicated to parents on progress reports and in the PCES monthly calendar located on the back of the PCES lunch menu. If for any reason an AR cut-off date needs to be changed, parents will be notified.

## AR Procedures for Kindergarten

Using the Accelerated Reading Program (AR) in kindergarten is very different than using AR in other grade levels. Kindergarten uses AR to help track students' listening comprehension; to teach students to pay attention to story details; and to acclimate and excite students about reading in the AR program. Most kindergarten students are not independent readers. Those students that are independent readers are not able to use the computer in a sophisticated way, so parent volunteers are needed to assist in the AR program. As the year progresses, the level of difficulty of the stories read increases. (*AR cannot impact a K-4 student's reading grade.*)

**Goal Setting:** A reading goal is set for each kindergarten class. Since adult volunteers are needed to work with our kindergarten students, our reading goal is set for the whole class based on the number of volunteers.

**AR Logs:** Students do not keep AR Logs in kindergarten. Teachers track students' progress using the AR computer reports.

**Progress Reports:** An AR Progress Report will come home each quarter with the report cards. This report will list the score for the listening comprehension tests and the number of points awarded to the student based on the listening score and the level of difficulty for that book.

**Recognition:** Students will be recognized at the *AR End of the Year Celebration* for their participation in the program. We emphasize the celebration is for the wonderful work they are doing in reading.

**Reading Levels:** Kindergarten only has one level to achieve. When a class has met the AR class goal, they all celebrate having achieved "Paw" Reader level.

**Reading Levels of AR Books:** AR books in our Media Center are denoted by a colored dot system.

Green Dot = 1.0 to 1.4

Blue Dot = 1.5 to 1.9

Orange Dot = 2.0 to 2.9

Red Dot = 3.0 to 3.9

Purple Dot = 4.0 to 4.9

Black Dot = 5.0 to 5.9

Yellow Dot = 6.0 and up

**Research indicates that students' guided independent reading should focus first on quality, then quantity. For this reason, an average of 80% is required to attain all certification levels.**

## AR Procedures for First Grade

AR in First Grade will be a combination of Read To, Read With, and Read Independently (TWI) Activities. AR books will be read at school and at home. *(AR cannot impact a K-4 student's reading grade.)*

**Goal Setting:** A yearly goal will be established for each student by the end of the first nine-week grading period. Initial AR goals are based on kindergarten teacher recommendations and/or classroom observations. First grade is a year of transition into reading. In support of this transition, the first grade teacher, based upon individual student needs, may modify initial AR goals. Any modifications in AR goals are communicated to the parents.

**AR Logs:** First Grade Students do not keep AR Logs. Each classroom teacher maintains an AR Notebook / File for each child. Student Record Reports are cumulatively added to these notebooks each week.

**Grades:** When a student has read an AR book and is thoroughly familiar with it, a teacher or parent volunteer will give that child the AR Test on the computer. Points are given according to the percentage of questions answered correctly. Typically, first graders earn .5 of a point for 100% accuracy on a test. Partial credit is earned when questions are missed. Ideally, a student should maintain an average percentage correct of 80% or better. No grades are given for AR.

**Progress Reports:** Student Record Reports will be sent home each week to update parents on AR Testing for that week. AR Progress Reports will be included with 4 ½ Week Progress Reports and Report Cards.

**Recognition:** Students will be encouraged to meet their goals through AR Club Recognition and *End-of-Year AR Celebrations*. **First Grade students do not participate in Panther Plus.**

**Cub Reader** = 25% of yearly goal by the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> grading period

**Super Reader** = 50% yearly goal 2<sup>nd</sup> grading period

**Outstanding Reader** = 75% of yearly goal 3<sup>rd</sup> grading period

**Panther Reader** = 100% of yearly goal 4<sup>th</sup> grading period

**Research indicates that students' guided independent reading should focus first on quality, then quantity. For this reason, an average of 80% is required to attain all certification levels.**

**Reading Levels:** An Independent Reading Range (ZPD) for each student will be established by STAR Tests and teacher judgment. Students will take a STAR Test at least once each grading period. Reading ranges are adjusted as a student progresses. Students should choose books within their reading range to read independently. An adult should supervise all independent reading. Students may choose books above their range if an adult reads the book to them.

Reading Levels of AR Books in our Media Center are denoted by a colored dot system.

Green Dot = 1.0 to 1.4

Blue Dot = 1.5 to 1.9

Orange Dot = 2.0 to 2.9

Red Dot = 3.0 to 3.9

Purple Dot = 4.0 to 4.9

Black Dot = 5.0 to 5.9

Yellow Dot = 6.0 and up

## AR Procedures for Second Grade

AR is an extremely important part of the second grade curriculum. It is used in a combination of Read To, Read With, and Read Independently (TWI) activities. Many 2<sup>nd</sup> grade trade books are used for reading instruction and non-fiction trade books are incorporated into our science and social studies programs. Students are also expected to be independently reading AR books within their reading range on a daily basis, as this will help each individual student to progress in their reading capabilities throughout the year. *(AR cannot impact a K-4 student's reading grade.)*

**Goal Setting:** A yearly goal will be established for each student within the first 2 weeks of school. Yearly goals are based on 1<sup>st</sup> Grade teacher recommendations and/or classroom observations, and input from parents. An Independent Reading Range (ZPD) will be established for each student using the STAR program and teacher judgement. Students will take a STAR Test at least once each grading period. Reading ranges will be adjusted as students progress.

**AR Logs:** Student Record Reports will be sent home each week to update parents on AR testing. Second grade teachers will also keep a log of these AR student records on file.

**Grades:** Students will take AR tests independently when they have read a book and are thoroughly familiar with it. Points are given according to the percentage of questions answered correctly. AR test scores will be incorporated into a reading grade only when students are tested on a trade book that has been directly taught in class.

**Progress Reports:** AR Progress Reports will be included with Progress Reports and Report Cards.

**Recognition:** Students will be encouraged to meet their goals through AR Club Recognition, morning announcements and *End-of-Year AR Celebration*.

**Research indicates that students' guided independent reading should focus on quality, then quantity. For this reason, an average of 80% is required to attain all certification levels.**

**Cub Reader** = 25% of yearly goal by the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> grading period

**Super Reader** = 50% of yearly goal 2<sup>nd</sup> grading period

**Outstanding Reader** = 75% of yearly goal 3<sup>rd</sup> grading period

**Panther Reader** = 100% of yearly goal 4<sup>th</sup> grading period

**Panther Plus** is reached when students, who have already earned Panther Reader, complete AR quizzes from a variety of genres (6 different genres, 2 books in each genre). Students must score 80% or higher in accuracy on each AR test taken for Panther Plus, as well as have maintained scores of 80% or higher through previous certification levels.

**Panther Plus Genres:** Biographies; Caldecott, or Georgia Book Awards; Mysteries; Science; Historical Fiction; Sports.

**Reading Levels:** Reading Levels of AR books in our Media Center are denoted by a colored dot system.

Green = 1.0-1.4

Blue = 1.5-1.9

Orange = 2.0-2.9

Red = 3.0-3.9

Purple = 4.0-4.9

Black = 5.0-5.9

Yellow = 6.0 and up

## AR Procedures for Third Grade

In third grade, AR is used to encourage students to read for pleasure and comprehension (both literal and inferential comprehension). It is used in conjunction with our basal anthology and leveled books to reinforce skills and help students to become life long readers. Students achieve their goals by reading AR books and taking AR tests individually. They also read AR books in small literature groups with parents. In addition, AR trade books are also integrated in the third grade curriculum. During weekly visits to the media center, students are encouraged to check out one AR book and one free choice book. In third grade, the state curriculum increases, resulting in limited time for personal reading in class. Due to this, reading time is needed at home to reach individual AR goals. (*AR cannot impact a K-4 student's reading grade.*)

**Goal Setting:** Students are given the STAR Test to receive their ZPD zone. Students will read AR books that are within their ZPD level. If a student scores above grade level on the STAR Test, their ZPD level may be lowered to include books on the student's grade level and above. Based on input from the previous teachers and input from parents, a yearly goal will be set for each student. The STAR Test will be given several times throughout the school year to evaluate progress. Students' zones are changed to allow for growth.

**AR Logs:** Each third grade student will be required to keep an AR Log. Students will be responsible for completing the information in the log prior to taking an AR test. AR logs are not sent home. They are kept on student's desks.

**Grades:** AR test scores will be incorporated with the reading grade only when students take a test on a trade book that has been taught in class or the story is in the third grade basal reader.

**Progress Reports:** An AR Progress Report will be sent home with each Academic Progress Report and also with each Report Card throughout the school year. A parent signature will be required on each AR Progress Report.

**Recognition:** Students will be encouraged to meet their goals through AR Club Recognition, morning announcements, and *End-of-Year AR Celebration*.

**Research indicates that students' guided independent reading should focus on quality first, then quantity. For this reason, an average of 85% is required to attain all certification levels.**

**Cub Reader** = 25% of yearly goal by the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> grading period

**Super Reader** = 50% of yearly goal 2<sup>nd</sup> grading period

**Outstanding Reader** = 75% of yearly goal 3<sup>rd</sup> grading period

**Panther Reader** = 100% of yearly goal 4<sup>th</sup> grading period

**Panther Plus** = Students complete a Panther Plus Passport by reading 2 books in each of the following categories: Biographies; Newberry or Georgia Book Award Books; Mysteries; Science; Historical Fiction; and Sports. Students must score 85% or higher in accuracy on each AR test taken for Panther Plus, as well as have maintained scores of 80% or higher through previous certification levels.

**Reading Levels:** Reading levels of AR Books in our Media Center are denoted by a colored dot system:

Green = 1.0-1.4

Purple = 4.0-4.9

Blue = 1.5-1.9

Black = 5.0-5.9

Orange = 2.0-2.9

Yellow = 6.0 and up

Red = 3.0-3.9

## AR Procedures for Fourth Grade

AR is a vital part of our 4<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum. The Student Reading Logs are begun the 1<sup>st</sup> week of school and are used throughout the year. Numerous sets of 4<sup>th</sup> grade Trade Books are used for reading instruction. Trade Books are also used to enhance our Social Studies and Science curriculum (chapter books and nonfiction books). After Trade Books are taught in the classroom, vocabulary and comprehension exercises completed, the AR tests may be a part of the reading grade for the unit with that book. In addition to these assigned books, the students will read a wide variety of chapter books choosing from all the genres of literature.

**Goal Setting:** Yearly goals are set using your child's ZPD, AR goal recommendations, and the input from both the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher and parents.. Yearly goals will be broken down into quarterly goals and weekly goals to help your child plan their reading and be successful in meeting their goals. *(AR cannot impact a K-4 student's reading grade.)*

**AR Logs:** Believing that reading practice is essential to building reading skills and progress in reading, the AR logs will be important in our reading program. A parent signature is required nightly on the logs as we develop the skills of reading through daily practice.

**Grades:** As explained above, the AR test score may be used as a reading grade if the book has been taught in the classroom.

**Progress Reports:** An AR Progress Report will come home attached to the 4 ½ Week Progress Report and the Report Card.

**Research indicates that students' guided independent reading should focus first on quality, then quantity. For this reason, an average of 85% is required to attain all certification levels.**

**Cub Reader** = 25% of yearly goal by the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> grading period

**Super Reader** = 50% of yearly goal 2<sup>nd</sup> grading period

**Outstanding Reader** = 75% of yearly goal 3<sup>rd</sup> grading period

**Panther Reader** = 100% of yearly goal 4<sup>th</sup> grading period

**Panther Plus** = Students complete a Panther Plus Passport by reading 2 books in each of the following categories: Biographies; Newberry or Georgia Book Award Books; Mysteries; Science; Historical Fiction, and Sports. Students must score 85% or higher in accuracy on each AR test taken for Panther Plus, as well as have maintained scores of 80% or higher through previous certification levels.

**Reading Levels:** Reading Levels of AR books in our Media Center are denoted by a colored dot system.

Green = 1.0-1.4

Purple = 4.0-4.9

Blue = 1.5-1.9

Black = 5.0-5.9

Orange = 2.0-2.9

Yellow = 6.0 and up

Red = 3.0-3.9

**Book Selection:** Since our students may have 2 library books checked out at one time, we will expect one of these books to be an AR Chapter book at the appropriate level. The second book may be a student choice book. Teachers will help students to make appropriate media book selections.

## AR Procedures for Fifth Grade

AR is an important part of our 5<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts curriculum. There are many components to the program that are intended for use by the students, teachers, and parents. Working together as a team, our goal is to improve reading skills and to promote the enjoyment of reading. It is a daily homework expectation that all 5<sup>th</sup> grade students read 15 minutes daily, record the pages/time read in their AR Logs, and have the entry signed by a parent. This 15 minute daily reading assignment is increased to 30 minutes daily after the first semester.

**AR Logs:** Student Reading AR Logs are established the first week of school. Included in the logs are: student/teacher/parent signed contract; AR test taking procedures; and individual student reading log for daily recording of (Read To, Read With, and Read Independently) **TWI** reading and parent signature. *AR logs must be completed by the student and presented to their classroom teacher before a student takes an AR test.*

**AR Contracts:** (Copy attached) The AR Contracts contain a student's ZPD, yearly goal, and student/teacher/parent signature.

### Accelerated Reader Student/Teacher/Parent Goal Contract

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

ZPD: \_\_\_\_\_

Update as needed throughout the year.

Goal plan; year \_\_\_\_\_, quarter \_\_\_\_\_, week \_\_\_\_\_.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Student*

\_\_\_\_\_

*Teacher*

\_\_\_\_\_

*Parent*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**AR Procedures for Fifth Grade**

**AR Goals:** Individual student yearly goals are set using a child’s ZPD, the 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher’s recommendation, and an AR grade level goal recommendation. The goals are set during a student/teacher conference with parent input. The yearly goals are then broken down into quarterly and weekly goals to help children monitor their progress.

**Research indicates that student’s guided independent reading should focus first on quality, then on quantity. For this reason, an average of 85% is required to attain all certification levels.**

**Cub Reader** = 25% of yearly goal by the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> grading period

**Super Reader** = 50% of yearly goal 2<sup>nd</sup> grading period

**Outstanding Reader** = 75% of yearly goal 3<sup>rd</sup> grading period

**Panther Reader** = 100% of yearly goal 4<sup>th</sup> grading period

**Panther Plus** = Students complete a Panther Plus Passport by reading 2 books in each of the following categories: Biographies; Newberry or Georgia Book Award Books; Mysteries; Science; Historical Fiction, and Sports. Students must score 85% or higher in accuracy on each AR test taken for Panther Plus, as well as have maintained scores of 80% or higher through previous certification levels.

**Grades:** One grade for AR is averaged into the reading grades for fifth grade students for each grading period. The entire AR grade cannot exceed 10% of the total reading grade for a nine weeks period. This AR grade is determined by the percentage of a reader’s participation goal that is achieved each nine weeks. These percentages are found on the Individual Reader’s Diagnostic AR Report each report period. The following grid translates the goal percentage into a numerical grade.

**Protocol for Fifth Grade AR Grading**

Grade Equivalent	Goal % 1 <sup>st</sup> 9 Weeks	Goal % 2 <sup>nd</sup> 9 Weeks	Goal % 3 <sup>rd</sup> 9 Weeks	Goal % 4 <sup>th</sup> 9 Weeks
100	25% +	50% +	75% +	100%
90	20% +	40% +	60% +	80% +
80	15% +	30% +	45% +	60% +
70	10% +	20% +	30% +	40% +
60	0% +	05% +	10% +	15% +

**AR and Trade Books:** Trade books, which are AR titles, are often used for class instructional purposes across the curriculum. Since comprehension strategies would be explicitly taught using these trade books, these AR test scores could be used as a reading comprehension grades and be included in student’s reading scores during a particular grading period.

**Reading Levels:** Reading levels of AR Books in our Media Center are denoted by a colored dot system:

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Green = 1.0-1.4  | Purple = 4.0-4.9    |
| Blue = 1.5-1.9   | Black = 5.0-5.9     |
| Orange = 2.0-2.9 | Yellow = 6.0 and up |
| Red = 3.0-3.9    |                     |