**Getting Started with Accelerated Reader**

**Basics**

**Set Reading Practice Goals**

**Go to Accelerated Reader -> Record Book and Goals -> Reading Practice Goals**

*It’s recommended you review the Goal Setting Best Practices document linked to on the Reading Practice Goals page.*

1. Choose a Marking Period.
2. Most students should use Average % Comprehension Goal of 85%
3. Select the number of Daily Reading Time and Update All Students.
4. Review the GE Test Dates for each student (use drop-down arrow) and select a test score that best reflects their reading ability. It does not have to be the most recent test date, especially if the most recent score seems unusually high or low for that student.
5. Adjust other goals as needed for specific student needs.
6. If desired, set an ATOS Book Level Goal at the lower end of the student’s ZPD.
7. Save.

*At the beginning of the next Marking Period, recreate new Record Books.*

***Tips for Advanced students****: Adjust the Avg % Goal incrementally up to 90%. Require students to choose nonfiction or specific genres. Continue to allow students with a high reading level to read broadly within their ZPD and interest level so they can continue to enjoy books they like and that their peers are reading, but encourage them to include some titles in the upper range of their ZPD as well.*

**Set AR Preferences – if desired**

**Go to Accelerated Reader -> Classroom Preferences -> Individual Student Settings**

* Consider setting the TWI (To, With, Independent) reading options for older students to Independent.
* You might also want to go to Edit Quizzing Allowed and restrict the ATOS levels on which you wish each student to be able to quiz.
* Consider editing the Interest Level allowed for quizzing – use with caution.

**Review Student Progress**

**Reading Practice Diagnostic Report**

*Provides a nice summary of student performance and progress towards goals. Review this report regularly.*

**Accelerated Reader -> Reports -> Reading Practice -> Diagnostic – Reading Practice**

**Student Record**

*Provides full details on each quiz the student has taken and their results. Review regularly, especially for students in need of intervention.*

**Accelerated Reader -> Reports -> Reading Practice -> Student Record**

**For Parents**

**Home Connect** – **A great share at Parent Conferences, Back to School Nights, and Open House!**

*Provides a secure site for parents (and students too!) to login and view their Accelerated Reader progress. Home Connect shows AR progress and a colorful, virtual book shelf featuring information on every quiz the student has taken. It’s all ready and waiting for your parents!*

***To print Home Connect Parent Handouts:***

**Go to Home Connect -> Reports -> Informational Letter English/Spanish**

**View Report -> Print. Hand them out. That’s it!!**