

Create a Reading Frenzy!

SIR WILLIAM BURROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL, LONDON

Accelerated Reader, produced by Renaissance Learning, has helped to motivate pupils to read more, increase their reading ability, and improve their performance in other subjects.

It also provides the continuous constructive feedback that helps to motivate pupils, dramatically accelerate learning and improve test marks, while reducing teacher paperwork.

Accelerated Reader increases library circulation and boosts reading levels by allowing pupils to take a quiz on books they have read. Even pupils exhibiting challenging behaviour are motivated to read. They then get immediate feedback on how they have done and teachers get guidance via reports on each and every pupil's reading ability.

Avril Newman, Headteacher at Sir William Burrough Primary School in Tower Hamlets, London, says,

"We are giving particular attention to 'boy-friendly' learning styles: multi-sensory activities, computer-assisted learning and books selected to reflect their preference for non-fiction, sport and horror. Accelerated Reader, our popular computerised reading system, tests, tracks and records reading progress and gets girls and boys hooked on books! As a result, we have narrowed the large gender gap in performance from 54% to 17% in the KS2 English SATs."

Sir William Borough has been using Accelerated Reader for four years. Avril Newman goes on to say,

"Accelerated Reader is a very simple idea, which has maximum effect in terms of helping pupils to be successful. The impact on the teacher's time and energy is minimal. Instead it adds to the teacher's own store of knowledge of the pupil's reading. It also motivates the pupil in a way that other reading systems just don't and gives them instant feedback, which again is very valuable to further their progress."