

# Scholastic Reading Counts



The purpose of the Reading Counts Program is to encourage children to practice reading in and out of the classroom. As with any activity, practice is needed for improvement. The program is to be used as a supplement to the teacher's classroom reading program. There are three basic steps the child needs to do for successful participation in the Reading Counts program.

**1. The child chooses a book to read that is part of the Reading Counts program and is in the child's independent reading level.**

The child's independent reading level will be given by the teacher according to NWEA lexile scores. The child chooses an appropriate book using the OPAC, checks the book out, and reads it. Although an abundance of wonderful children's literature is available, not all books are part of the Reading Counts Program.

**2. The child reads the book for comprehension (understanding of the story).**

It is recommended for lower reading level books that the child independently reads the story at **least two times**, prior to taking a quiz. The asking of questions is one of the best forms of increasing reading comprehension. Questions like . . . What is the story about? What is the setting? What is your favorite part of the story and why? Who is the main character? Are the characters real or make-believe? How do you know? To aid in comprehension, the child needs to discuss the story either mentally or verbally. Knowing the name of the author is also important.

**3. The child takes a computerized quiz of 10 comprehension questions, hoping to score at least 8 out of 10.**

**-Each** Reading Counts quiz will ask 10 questions randomly chosen from a pool of 30 questions. Two students sitting side by side taking a quiz on the very same book would take completely different quizzes. Students are told at the end of the quiz if they passed. Once they pass, they earn points for the book read.

**-It** is recommended that a student take the quiz within 24 hours of completion of the book. Quizzes taken and passed on previously books read are not allowed.

**-If** a child gets less than 8 correct, they may retake the quiz up to **two** more times. The child is required to wait 24 hours before the quiz can be retaken.



## Reading Points for a Reading Grade

During each **9-week period**, students are ***required*** to gain a certain number of points for his/her Reading grade, which is similar in weight to a quiz.

Total Points Required for Reading Grade by Grade Level

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade ~ 9 points**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade ~ 12 points**

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade ~ 15 points**

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade ~ 18 points**

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade ~ 21 points**

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade ~ 6 points (2nd semester)**

**Kdg ~ TBD**

### Reading Quiz Grade

A nine week reading quiz grade will be given based on the percentage of the whole of the points a student has earned. (Example: A student in third grade earns 9 points. The nine week grade would be 9/12 or 75%).

### Reading Counts' Rewards

Students that have reached the required points during the grading period will be able to participate in the quarterly Reading Counts Celebration. These will occur during the school day and vary in the type of reward offered each time.