

# Scholastic Reading Counts!™

## Product Overview

**Scholastic Reading Counts!** helps educators encourage, manage, and assess independent and curriculum-connected reading for students in grades K-12. **Reading Counts!** uses the Lexile Framework® for Reading leveling system to match readers to text. When the Lexile® measures of a book and student are matched, the reader is more likely to experience reading success. **Reading Counts!** consists of three major components:

- A library of over 33,000 engaging leveled fiction and nonfiction books from over 400 publishers
- A collection of over 33,000 computerized quizzes that test student comprehension and that can be customized to help all children succeed
- The *Scholastic Management Suite*™, which provides teachers with tools to monitor and evaluate student independent reading, as well as data to guide and differentiate instruction

### **Program Design**

With **Scholastic Reading Counts!**, students independently read self-selected books at their reading level and take short quizzes on the computer to verify completion and comprehension of the book. The program celebrates student success with different “congratulations” screens. If a student fails, he or she may retake the quiz with a different set of questions. Students can also provide feedback in the Read-O-Meter. Teachers track student progress through the management system that produces customizable reports.

As an individualized, independent reading program, **Reading Counts!** supports the development of these essential reading skills:

#### **Fluency**

- Children develop fluency through increased reading practice.

#### **Vocabulary**

- Students read fiction and nonfiction books in a variety of genres and subjects.

#### **Comprehension**

- Reflecting upon what is read and answering questions aids understanding of text.
- The program provides skills practice in summarizing, sequencing, cause and effect, and identifying main ideas and detail.
- Quizzes prompt students to think about literary elements, such as setting, characterization, plot, and perspective.

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### **Assessments**

After children complete a book, they take a comprehension quiz of randomly selected questions from a 30-item bank. The length of quiz can be customized to meet individual student needs. **Reading Counts!** management tools monitor student achievement and progress, provide actionable data for instructional planning, and alert teachers of struggling students.

- Student progress can be tracked by points earned or by the number of books or words read.
- Student achievement can be evaluated by three systems: Lexile®, Guided Reading, or grade-equivalent reading levels.
- Students work toward quantifiable reading goals that are automatically recorded in **Reading Counts!**
- Data can be evaluated by individual student, reading group, class, teacher, grade level, or by all the **Reading Counts!** participants in the school.

Reports that can be generated include the following:

Alerts!	Reading Report Card	Quiz Frequency	Goals Report
Parent Letter	Reading List	Award Certificates	Award Summary
Frequent Reader Update	Reading Progress Report	Point Status Summary	Student Book Ratings

### **Motivation and Engagement**

Students in the **Reading Counts!** program enjoy reading leveled books that they have selected and that give them the appropriate amount of reading challenge. Immediate feedback on quiz results and personalized congratulations screens for passing quizzes encourage them to continue reading books. **Scholastic Reading Counts!** also offers creative incentive ideas to motivate readers and generate excitement. Students can be awarded achievement certificates and ribbons, earn points to exchange for a variety of available incentives, or receive classroom theme prizes.

### **Intervention Strategies**

**Scholastic Reading Counts!** reports keep educators updated on how every student is performing throughout the year and gives them actionable data to differentiate instruction. Each time teachers log onto the software, they receive *Auto-Alerts!*. These reports notify them when a student requires intervention, such as if the child is failing multiple quizzes, is reading books at an inappropriate level, or is not meeting personal goals.

**Reading Counts!** can benefit students with special needs or English Language Learners. The length of quizzes can be customized to accommodate attention deficit students and those with other special needs. Students have the flexibility of taking quizzes on audio books. High-interest/intervention books are available for readers in the lower Lexile levels. Spanish-speaking students may read Spanish books, or take an English or Spanish quiz for the same book.

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### **Home-School Connection**

**Reading Counts!** provides multiple means for involving parents and caregivers in their children's reading program.

- Parent Letters describe the program and list ways to encourage reading at home.
- Parents co-sign their child's Personal Goal statements.
- Test results and progress reports are shared with parents during conference times or sent home.
- Parents support reading at home by reading aloud the leveled books students choose and promoting reading for pleasure.
- Students can share their successes with parents during a "Family Reading Night" or Open House.
- Parents can view the school's web site to see what quizzes are included in the school's library.

### **Professional Development**

**Reading Counts!** offers educators a variety of professional development solutions:

- *On-Site, Hands-on Software Training.* Scholastic assesses school needs, designs a customized workshop, and provides staff with the training and tools to successfully implement **Reading Counts!** Workshop topics include how to manage and assess student reading using the *Scholastic Management Suite* and how to examine comprehensive **Reading Counts!** reports that help teachers monitor reading growth.
- *Scholastic Red.* Facilitated online and in-person courses help teachers apply scientifically based reading research to improve teaching and learning.