



Readers in Residence

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. WHO IS THE AUTHOR OF READERS IN RESIDENCE?

A. *Readers in Residence* is written by Debra Bell, the best-selling author of *The Ultimate Guide to Homeschooling*, *The Ultimate Guide to Homeschooling Teens*, and the Ultimate Planners for moms, teens, and students. Debra is also the author of *Writers in Residence*, the composition and grammar curriculum released in 2015 by Apologia that provides a biblically based framework for kids to think about language and learn to communicate effectively in writing. Debra has taught composition and literature to students of all ages for over 30 years, as well as AP English to high schoolers for over a decade. She holds a BS in communications education, an MA in English, and a PhD in educational psychology from Temple University.

Q. WHAT TOOLS ARE AVAILABLE IN READERS IN RESIDENCE TO HELP ME ASSESS MY CHILD'S PROGRESS IN READING COMPREHENSION?

A. Student understanding is displayed through insightful questions, activities related to the reading, and unit projects that demonstrate kids' comprehension of the main concepts being taught. Rubrics provide an easy way to assess student projects, and an Answer Key for all questions is available. Checklists are included in every module to ensure the required work is being completed. A suggested daily schedule is also provided.

Q. WHICH BOOKS ARE COVERED IN THIS LITERATURE CURRICULUM? WILL I NEED TO BUY THEM SEPARATELY?

A. Debra Bell has chosen three of the finest books in children's literature for in-depth study: *Sarah, Plain and Tall*; *Charlotte's Web*; and *Because of Winn-Dixie*. These books do not come with the curriculum. Students will also study three additional books of their choosing.

Q. WHAT SKILLS ARE BEING TAUGHT IN THIS PROGRAM?

A. *Readers in Residence* is designed to teach children how to read to learn. Students learn to recognize the elements of literature, read for understanding, make inferences from context clues, identify figures of speech, and increase vocabulary. Having these skills makes reading more enjoyable and productive.

Q. HOW MUCH PREP TIME BY THE PARENT IS REQUIRED?

A. Very little prep time is needed with this curriculum because it is written directly to students. The Answer Key helps parents provide assistance; rubrics and checklists are also included to track and evaluate students' progress.

Q. IS THIS A COURSE MY CHILD CAN COMPLETE WITHOUT MUCH SUPERVISION FROM ME?

A. Yes. Most students can complete the lessons without much supervision. However, parental involvement—especially in discussion—is important to help students get the most benefit from this course.

Q. DO I USE READERS IN RESIDENCE ALONG WITH WRITERS IN RESIDENCE

A. *Readers in Residence* may be used with or without *Writers in Residence*. However, a full year of language arts is covered if you complete both.

Q. WHAT GRADES DOES READERS IN RESIDENCE, VOLUME 1 COVER?

A. *Readers in Residence*, volume 1 is aimed at students in 4th grade and up. It is suitable for older students who struggle with reading comprehension or who are unfamiliar with the skills taught in this program.

Q. WHAT MAKES READERS IN RESIDENCE UNIQUE?

A. *Readers in Residence*, is broken down into small teaching units with activities for all kinds of learners. The lessons show kids how to read analytically, book clubs help develop community, and questions at the end of each module engage families in conversation, enabling parents to see how well their children are comprehending the books being read. Scripture that is applicable to the subject is included, training students to consider literature in light of God's Word. In addition to studying three of the finest books in children's literature, this flexible program allows students to read and study three books of their own choosing during the school year, creating an atmosphere of reading for fun.

Q. WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BOOK CLUBS, AND WHY ARE THEY ENCOURAGED IN THIS CURRICULUM?

A. Debra Bell believes that reading should be a shared experience. Kids need to see reading as something that can be enjoyed together, not just as a solitary experience. Children love companionship, and book clubs are a great way to create lasting memories and friendships while appreciating good literature. Book clubs also offer opportunities for children to develop confidence and leadership skills as they share what they've learned and like about the books they read.



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Readers in Residence is available at Apologia.com.