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## NEWS RELEASE

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## **Supported by Scientifically Based Research, Accelerated Reader Receives Favorable Review from Renowned Organization**

WISCONSIN RAPIDS, Wis.—October 20, 2004—Renaissance Learning®, Inc., a leading provider of learning information systems and school improvement programs for pre-K–12 schools, has announced that Accelerated Reader® (AR) received a favorable review from the nationally recognized Florida Center for Reading Research (FCRR). The FCRR is an organization that “disseminates information about research-based practices related to literacy instruction and assessment for children in pre-school through twelfth grade.” FCRR found AR to be both supported by solid research and based on factors known to support strong reading growth.

FCRR describes AR as “a computer based, reading management and motivational system designed to complement existing classroom literacy programs for grades K–12.”

FCRR’s evaluation included a review of the gold standard, experimental study of Accelerated Reader and Reading Renaissance conducted by National Reading Panel member, Dr. Jay Samuels of University of Minnesota. The review states, “Results from this study, given that it involved random assignment to condition and employed several measures of reading outcome, provide strong support for the efficacy of the AR program in supporting reading growth.”

Furthermore, describing the research supporting AR, FCRR writes, “Given the strong empirical relationships between amount of time spent reading and reading growth, as well as significant theoretical support for the idea that practice in reading should lead to stronger reading ability, the goal of AR is consistent with what is currently known about factors that support strong reading growth.”

The FCRR review is the third major national evaluation of Renaissance solutions by a prestigious educational organization. The first is the accreditation of Renaissance solutions by the nationally recognized Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory (<http://www.nwrel.org/scpd/catalog/modellist.asp>; click on School Renaissance). The second is the review of Accelerated Vocabulary, Renaissance Learning’s vocabulary management software, by the highly influential Oregon Reading First Center ([http://oregonreadingfirst.uoregon.edu/downloads/S-I\\_Review\\_Full\\_06-23-04.pdf](http://oregonreadingfirst.uoregon.edu/downloads/S-I_Review_Full_06-23-04.pdf)) All three reviews have been extremely favorable.

Accelerated Reader’s review by FCRR can be found at:  
[http://www.fcrr.org/FCRRReports/PDF/Accelerated\\_Reader.pdf](http://www.fcrr.org/FCRRReports/PDF/Accelerated_Reader.pdf)

Renaissance Learning®, Inc., is a leading provider of research-based learning information systems software, school improvement programs, teacher training and consulting. Adopted by over 67,000 schools, Renaissance information technology products give students and teachers continuous constructive feedback that helps motivate students, dramatically accelerate learning, improve test scores, and help students master all standards, while reducing teacher paperwork. Over 500,000 educators have received Renaissance training. Renaissance Learning has six U.S. locations and subsidiaries in Australia, Canada, India, and the United Kingdom.

*Source: Renaissance Learning, Inc.*