RocketReader® Instructions

RocketReader
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Introduction

High performance reading is critical to educational and career success. RocketReader has a series of dynamic exercises to enable you to dramatically improve your reading speed, comprehension and stamina.

System Requirements

- Windows 2000, XP or Vista
- CD ROM drive
- 40 MB free hard drive space
- Sound card and speakers or headphones

Installation Instructions

To install RocketReader your computer, follow the instructions below. If you have been sent a CD ROM, follow the CD-ROM instructions. If you have purchased a download, follow the Download instructions.

CD-ROM

1. Place CD-ROM in your CD-ROM drive.
2. If the installation does not start automatically, then double-click rocketreadervxx.exe file on the CD-ROM drive.
3. Follow the Installation Instructions in the setup wizard.
4. Once the program is installed, run the program by double clicking on the desktop icon or by using the *Start | RocketReader* menu item.
5. Click on the *Register* button in the first window that appears.
6. Enter your registration string.
7. Start using the program.

Download

1. Download the RocketReader program from the url: http://www.rocketreader.com/download/RocketReaderDownload.html
2. Follow the Installation Instructions in the setup wizard.
3. Once the program is installed, run the program by double clicking on the desktop icon or by using the *Start | RocketReader* menu item.
4. Click on the *Register* button in the first window that appears.
5. Enter your registration string.
6. Start using the program.

Creating an Account

1. Click on the *Add* button
2. Enter your first and second names and password and click on *OK*
3. Once you have created an account, you can logon by selecting your username and entering your password

Selecting a Lesson

Click on a lesson based on the amount of time you want to spend or select *Custom Lesson*. *Custom Lesson* allows you to select individual training exercises. The *More >>* button in *Lesson* window below shows what training exercises are in each lesson.
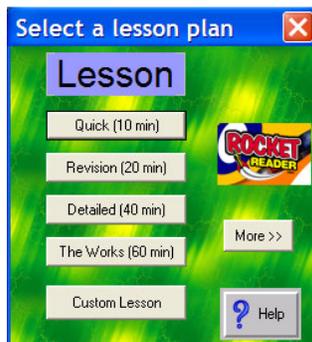

Training Exercises

The Skills window is the main training interface. The training exercises can be accessed through this interface.

Flash Training

This exercise will train you to read more words with a single glance. You will be able to read faster as your eyes become more efficient and your brain learns to process a group of words. Keep your eyes on the screen. Your eyes should not move when the text is flashed on the screen. De-focus your eyes slightly. To de-focus, try to widen your field of vision to include the four red crosshairs on the edges of the exercise window. With practice, you will be able to read the letters and words even after they have disappeared from the screen. With even more practice, the letters will be automatically translated (by the brain) into words and sentences.
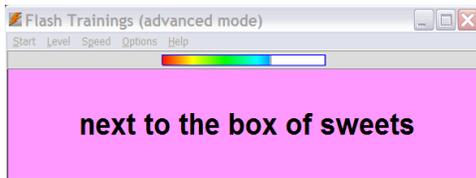
Menu Options
Start Menu - start your training session, use your own words or obtain graphs or reports
Level Menu - manually change the number of characters flashed
Speed Menu - adjust the flashing speed
Options Menu - control the answering mode, sound and shadows

Choosing a Reading Text

For the Grouping, Speed and Readings exercise you need to choose a story. Stories are arranged by category and level of difficulty (from 1 to 20). Level one is the easiest and level 20 the hardest. To choose a story, select a category tab, click on the story and then click on *OK*. You can choose your own text file by clicking on the *Text File* button and selecting the document you would like to use in the training exercise.

Grouping Training

This exercise will train you to easily locate word groups as you read. Smart shadows that turn into words develop your ability to read large chunks of text directly from the written page. Remember to choose the right shadow size - it is crucial to your success. It should be large enough that you are pushing yourself to read the words behind each shadow with a single glance of the eyes. If you are scanning the words behind each shadow or looking at individual words, then the shadow size is too big. Use the numbers to reduce the number of characters behind the shadows until you can read all characters in a single glance.
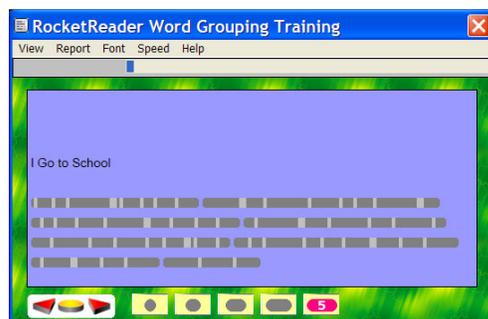
Controls
The Circle - start your Grouping exercise
The Left Arrow - decrease the scrolling speed
The Right Arrow - increase the scrolling speed
The Numbers – adjust the width of the shadow size

Speed Training

This exercise will develop your reading speed by displaying text rapidly on the screen. Start with a speed that you are comfortable with and set the ramp value so that it's a little difficult but not too difficult.
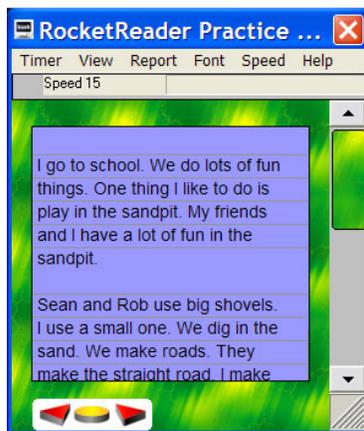
Controls

The Start/Pause Button - start or pause the exercise
The Speed Slider - adjust the text display speed
The Width Numbers - adjust the width of the displayed text
The Ramp Option - adjust the speed increase e.g. if your starting speed is 160 words per minute, a ramp of 50% means an increase to 240 words per minute by the end

Readings Training

This exercise allows you to practice your reading skills on texts of your choice. Aim to read quickly and accurately without exceeding your ability. When you have finished reading the text, do a comprehension test to check your understanding of the material. A comprehension rate of 80% or higher is good.
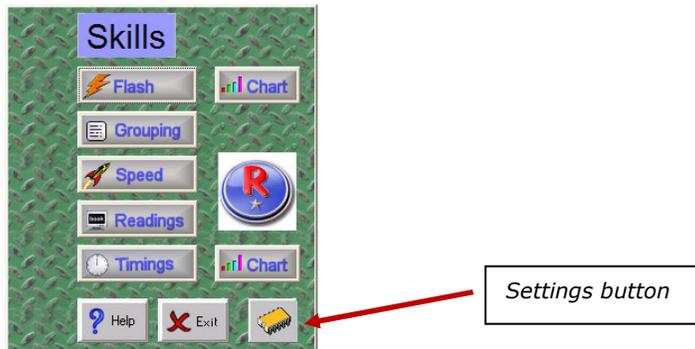
Controls

The Circle **-** start, pause or resume scrolling
The Left Arrow – decrease the scrolling speed
Right Arrow Key - increase the scrolling speed

Timings Training

This exercise allows you to test your reading speed and comprehension on texts you have not read previously.

Changing Settings

The *Settings* button in the *Skills* window allows you to change various options and settings in RocketReader.

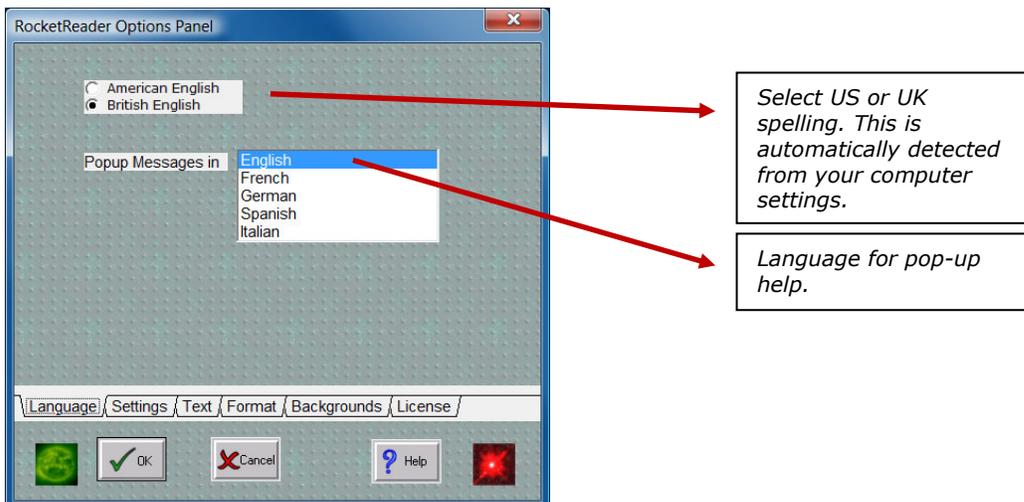Click the microchip button on the *Skills* window to access the *RocketReader Options Panel*.

RocketReader Options Panel

The *Options Panel* contains six tabs to control a variety of options: Language, Settings, Text, Format, Backgrounds and License.
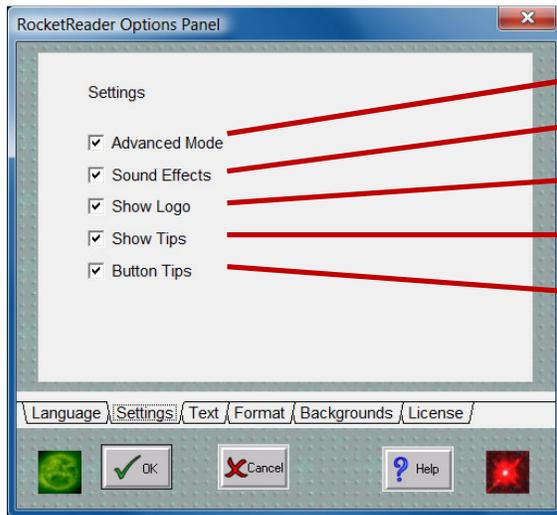
Each tab is described in the next section.

Language Tab

Select US or UK spelling. This is automatically detected from your computer settings.

Language for pop-up help.

Settings Tab

Settings

☑ Advanced Mode
☑ Sound Effects
☑ Show Logo
☑ Show Tips
☑ Button Tips

Advanced or basic mode. Advanced mode uses more difficult English.

Sound on/off option.

Display logo option.

Show tips about reading/using RocketReader.

Show a tool tip when you hover your mouse over a button.

RocketReader Options Panel

Language / Settings / Text / Format / Backgrounds / License

OK   Cancel   Help

Text Tab

RocketReader Options Panel

This font is used in the
RocketReader Exercises and Readings

Font Language	Western
Font	Arial
Text Color	
Text Background	
Line Spacing	1.2
Learning Difficulties	

Language / Settings / Text / Format / Backgrounds / License

OK   Cancel   Help
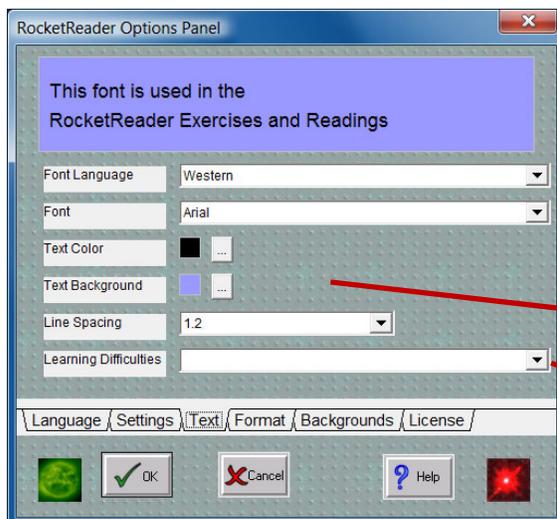
Choose how text is displayed in the various training exercises.

Choose a display profile for people with learning difficulties including dyslexia, ADHD and low vision profiles.

Format Tab

RocketReader Options Panel

Text Formatting Options (user files only)

☑ Ignore line breaks and fit text to window
☑ New paragraph trigged by two adjacent linebreaks
☑ Parse HTML tags in text
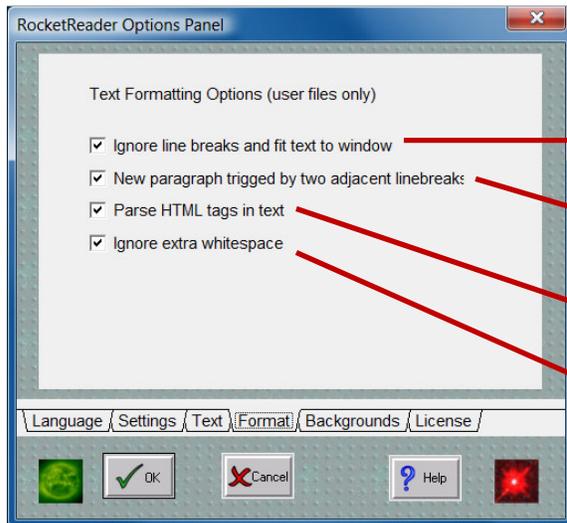☑ Ignore extra whitespace

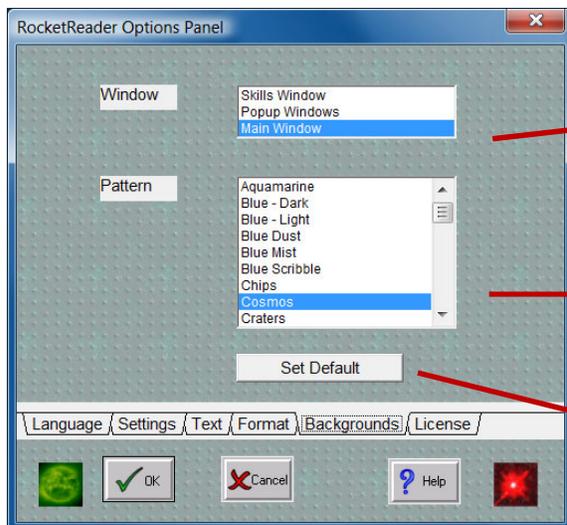Language / Settings / Text / Format / Backgrounds / License

OK   Cancel   Help

When reading a text file, ignores carriage return characters.

Two carriage returns will trigger a new paragraph when reading a text file.

Translates HTML formatted text into regular display text.

Ignore any extra whitespace, for example, spaces and tabs.

Backgrounds Tab

RocketReader Options Panel

Window

Skills Window
Popup Windows
Main Window

Pattern

Aquamarine
Blue - Dark
Blue - Light
Blue Dust
Blue Mist
Blue Scribble
Chips
Cosmos
Craters

Set Default

Language / Settings / Text / Format / Backgrounds / License
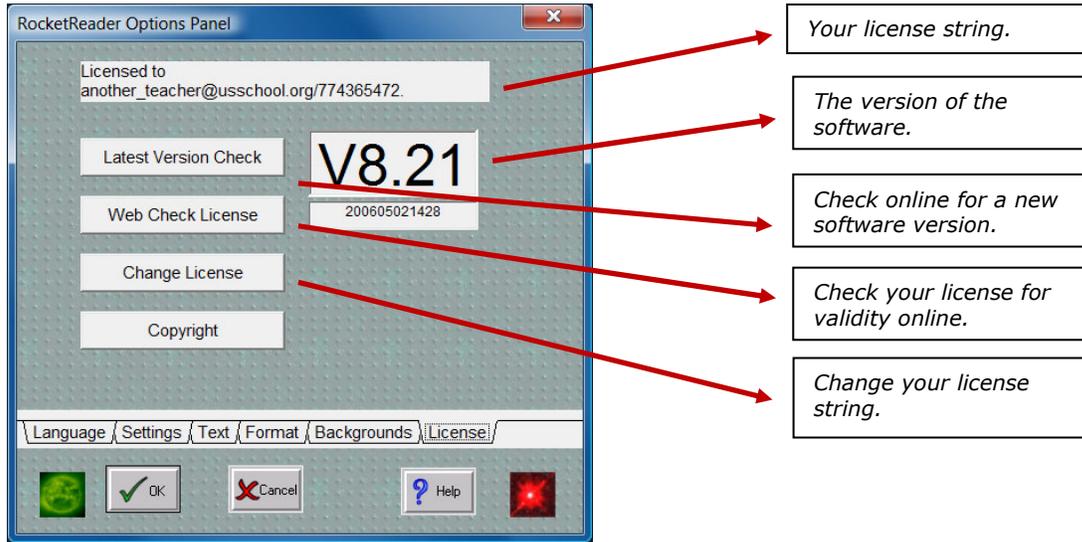
OK   Cancel   Help

Select the window in which to apply the background pattern.

Choose the background pattern to apply to the selected window.

Select the standard background patterns for all windows.

License Tab

Licensed to
another_teacher@usschool.org/774365472.

Latest Version Check

V8.21

Web Check License

200605021428

Change License

Copyright

Language / Settings / Text / Format / Backgrounds / License

OK   Cancel   Help

Your license string.

The version of the software.

Check online for a new software version.

Check your license for validity online.

Change your license string.

Reports

The *Reports* menu in exercises allows you to see your progress with RocketReader. You can choose report on all exercises or just the one you are doing. Reports are generated as *HTML* documents, i.e. they open in a browser window. You can print them or copy them to other programs like MS Word.

Support

Help

Help is available from the *Help* menu or by clicking the *Help* button.

Technical Support

Please email:
support@rocketreader.com

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