

Renaissance Home Connect™

Frequently Asked Questions

The following information is to address some of the technical aspects of Renaissance Home Connect installation, set up, and use.

What is Renaissance Home Connect?

Renaissance Home Connect is a feature of Renaissance Place™ Enterprise which allows students and parents to track progress in reading and math from home. Renaissance Home Connect provides functionality for parents to receive emails when students complete Renaissance Place activities such as taking an Accelerated Reader™ quiz, scoring an Accelerated Math™ test, or completing a MathFacts in a Flash™ level. Parents and students may also log in to Renaissance Home Connect to see progress information.

Renaissance Home Connect is available as follows:

- Accelerated Reader Enterprise, Accelerated Reader Starter Kit, and Accelerated Reader Enterprise Special Edition customers get Renaissance Home Connect for Accelerated Reader.
- Accelerated Math Enterprise, Accelerated Math Starter Kit and Accelerated Math Special Edition customers get Renaissance Home Connect for Accelerated Math.
- MathFacts in Flash RP customers with a current subscription get Renaissance Home Connect for MathFacts in a Flash.

How does Renaissance Home Connect work?

Since Renaissance Learning™ manages hosted Renaissance Place Web sites there is minimal work required for you to allow communication with Renaissance Learning. The district administrator will need to make Renaissance Home Connect available district-wide using the *Setup Renaissance Home Connect* link. Each school that will be using Renaissance Home Connect will also need to be activated using the *Activate Schools* link. Both of these links can be found under the Renaissance Home Connect tab within Renaissance Place.

How do students and parents access Renaissance Home Connect?

Teachers will have access to generate Renaissance Home Connect Informational Letters once Renaissance Home Connect has been activated by a district administrator. This letter can be sent home to parents explaining how to access Renaissance Home Connect. The Informational Letter and Student interface are available in English and Spanish. The Web address for Renaissance Home Connect is not the same Web address used by students to take quizzes and other tasks in Renaissance Place.

Can I limit Renaissance Home Connect access to classes or schools?

Renaissance Home Connect is activated at the district level. However, access to Renaissance Home Connect is obtained by providing users with the appropriate Web address and login

information which is included in the Informational Letter. Teachers can choose to send home the Informational Letter for only those students they wish to use Renaissance Home Connect.

How does the Renaissance Home Connect email feature work?

Once Renaissance Home Connect is setup, enabled by the district, and the teacher has sent home the Informational Letter, parents can log in and choose to subscribe to notifications about their child's activities within Renaissance Place by providing their email address. Parents will have the option to have these emails sent in either English or Spanish.

What information is sent by the Renaissance Home Connect email feature?

After a parent has registered, details of their child's Accelerated Reader quizzes taken, Accelerated Math objectives mastered, and MathFacts in a Flash levels completed are sent to a mail server at Renaissance Learning where an email is generated and sent to email address(es) provided. The parent can then log in to Renaissance Home Connect to see further details. A typical email for a student taking an Accelerated Reader quiz is as follows:

Example Email - Accelerated Reader Reading Practice Quiz

Subject: Accelerated Reader Reading Practice Quiz results for Casey

Dear Mom,

Casey took an Accelerated Reader Reading Practice Quiz today.

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| Title: | A Game of Tag at the Farm |
| Author: | Laura Burton Rice |
| Score: | 100% |
| Points: | 0.5 |

To learn more about your student's progress, log in to [Renaissance Home Connect](#) and enter your student's user name and password.

If you have questions about this email or Renaissance Home Connect, please contact your student's school.

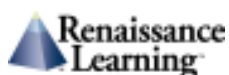
Thank you.

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You are receiving this email because you or someone you know signed up in Renaissance Home Connect to receive emails about this student's progress. If you prefer not to receive these emails, you can [unsubscribe](#). Please do not reply to this automatically generated email.

To ensure delivery of this student's progress emails, add this email address to your address book.



How often are Home Connect email notifications sent out, and how long will it take for the parent to receive the email?

When a student completes an activity that will generate an email, within about 10 seconds the results are sent from the Renaissance Place Real Time server to a mail server at Renaissance Learning. The mail server processes queued messages approximately every 10 seconds, generates the email, and sends to the email address(es) provided. Therefore, it's about 20-30 seconds from the time the student completes an activity that will generate an email, to the time the information is formatted into an email and dispatched to the end recipient. Although delivery time will vary, it should generally arrive within about 15 minutes.

Should I be concerned about Renaissance Place Web application being available from the Internet?

As with any Web site on the Internet, standard security practices should be followed by your Administrator and Staff. Because your hosted site is available on the Internet, teachers will be able to access Renaissance Place from outside the school, allowing them to run reports and other tasks to manage their class' Renaissance Place activities.

Students will use the same login name and password to access Renaissance Home Connect as they use to access Renaissance Place at school. Having strong passwords and keeping passwords private are important factors in maintaining a high level of security. Renaissance Place has an IP Restrictions feature which we recommend to restrict Renaissance Place Student Login to known IP addresses assigned to computers within schools.