

Joy Reader FAQ

1. What is Joy Reader?

Joy Reader is an app only platform that allows students to access various authentic Chinese and English reading materials that cater to their reading levels, interests, and preferences. Teachers will be using Joy Reader in addition to iChineseReader to provide a richer literacy experience for all students, as Joy Reader contains many chapter books and locally written books directly from China. Teachers are able to assign the reading levels for students and students are able to customize certain features such as audio reading, audio pacing, recording, pinyin, traditional and simplified characters, and dictionary. Students are also able to enter world-wide competitions and have their work published through the app for other Joy Reader users to see. Joy Reader currently works over one million students in total around the globe. This will be our first year piloting the program; based on data collected this year, a decision will be made whether the BSD Chinese DL Program will adopt the material or not for permanent use.

2. How is Joy Reader different from iChineseReader?

As Wawayaya Joy Reader was originally created for students in Beijing before expanding to Chinese dual language programs around the world, the reading materials include more locally written chapter books in Chinese as well as fiction and non-fiction English books. The books are leveled based on HSK vocabulary and standards from Hong Kong. Joy Reader currently does not provide quizzes and comprehension activities for students and it is an app only platform. The dictionary function works on all books for every vocabulary words.

iChineseReader is a U.S. based company that designed its product specifically with the Chinese dual language programs in the U.S. in mind. Reading materials are leveled based on ACTFL standards in the U.S. and its AP reading materials match the themes that the AP Institute releases every year. It provides quizzes and optional writing activities for some of the books, though the dictionary function is limited to certain vocabulary words.

Both products provide the same customizable features such as audio, audio pacing, games/incentives, pinyin, traditional/simplified characters, and dictionary, and allow students to have access to more authentic reading materials in Chinese.

3. How do I access Joy Reader?

Joy Reader is accessible through app only. Search for “WaWaYaYa JoyReader” in the app store and download the app for free. Your student can set up the profile and she/he should already be assigned to a specific teacher’s class.

4. What is my student's account?

Your student's teacher has the account information. That information will be shared during curriculum night or after.