**A Parent’s Guide to **

Dear Parent or Carer,

Your child has completed a classroom-based reading test as part of Scholastic Reading Pro. The program is designed to develop successful readers by evaluating student's reading abilities and motivating them to read more at appropriately challenging levels.

In the test, students read a series of short passages from books and informational materials. After each passage, the student completes a fill-in-the-gap sentence. The test is taken on a computer or tablet and lasts about 20 minutes. Test results are reported using a readability measurement called the Lexile. Think of a Lexile measure as you would the reading from an outdoor thermometer. Just as you can use the temperature on a thermometer to decide what kind of coat to wear, a Lexile measure can be used to decide how difficult a book to read compared to your reading ability.

When your child's reading level (Lexile) is in the range of the Lexile level of a book, your child can read that book with confidence and control. At this target rate of comprehension, material is challenging without being frustrating or boring. This encourages your child to read more, and reading more in the targeted range will increase his/her Lexile measure, furthering reading skills.

Your child may have received a personal list of recommended books that reflects his/her Lexile measure and reading interests. After reading a book, your child will take a comprehension quiz to see if he/she understood the book. I will keep track of your child's reading and how he/she performs on quizzes and Lexile tests throughout the year.

There will be plenty of classroom incentives to keep students working toward their reading goals, but we need your help too. On the following pages is a guide for how your child can log-on at home and take a quiz when they have completed reading a book. Your involvement is critical to your child's success. Feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you for working with me to help your child read more to achieve more.

Kind regards,

…

**Step 1 – Logging in to Reading Pro**

When your child is at home they can access Reading Pro via any internet enabled device a full list of supported browsers and operating systems can be found at the end of this guide.

Reading Pro will also work on the iPad and Android Tablets (make sure you have allowed pop-ups in your browser).

This is the link to the schools Reading Pro account (remember to save it in Favourites)

[Your School URL here]

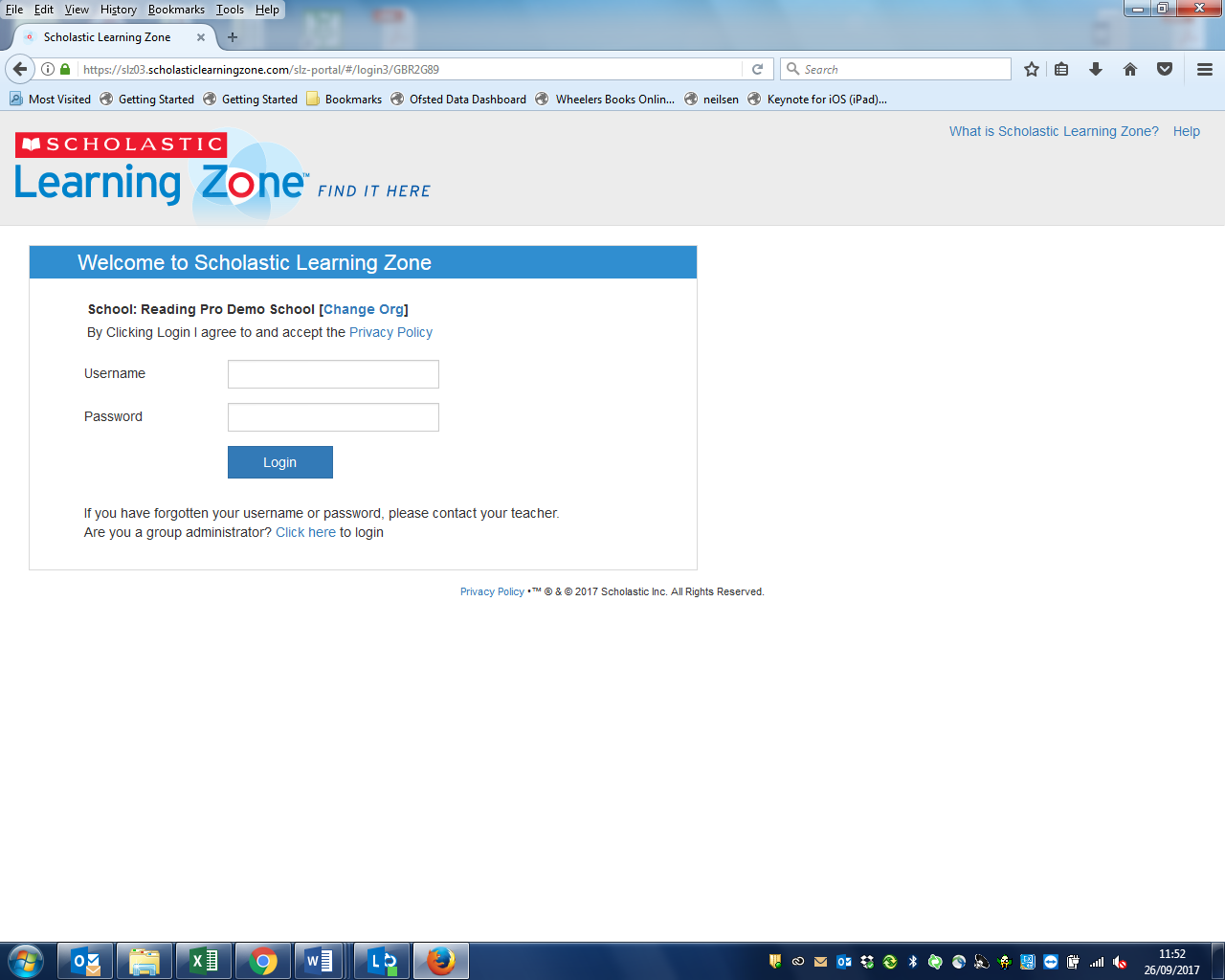
There is also a Reading Pro button on our school website that will take you to the student’s log-in page. It looks like this:



Enter your username and password (remember that they are case sensitive)

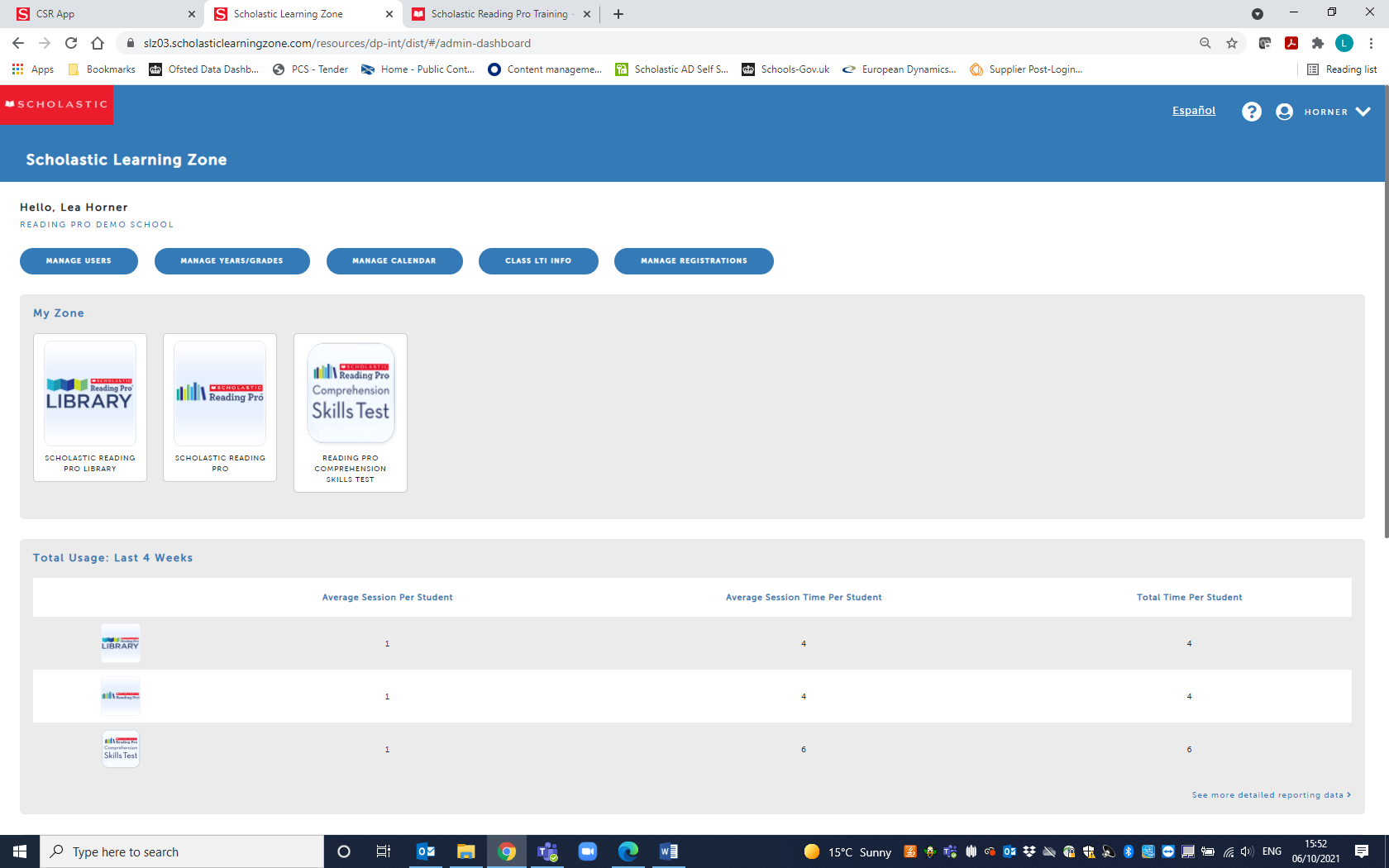
**Username: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Password: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

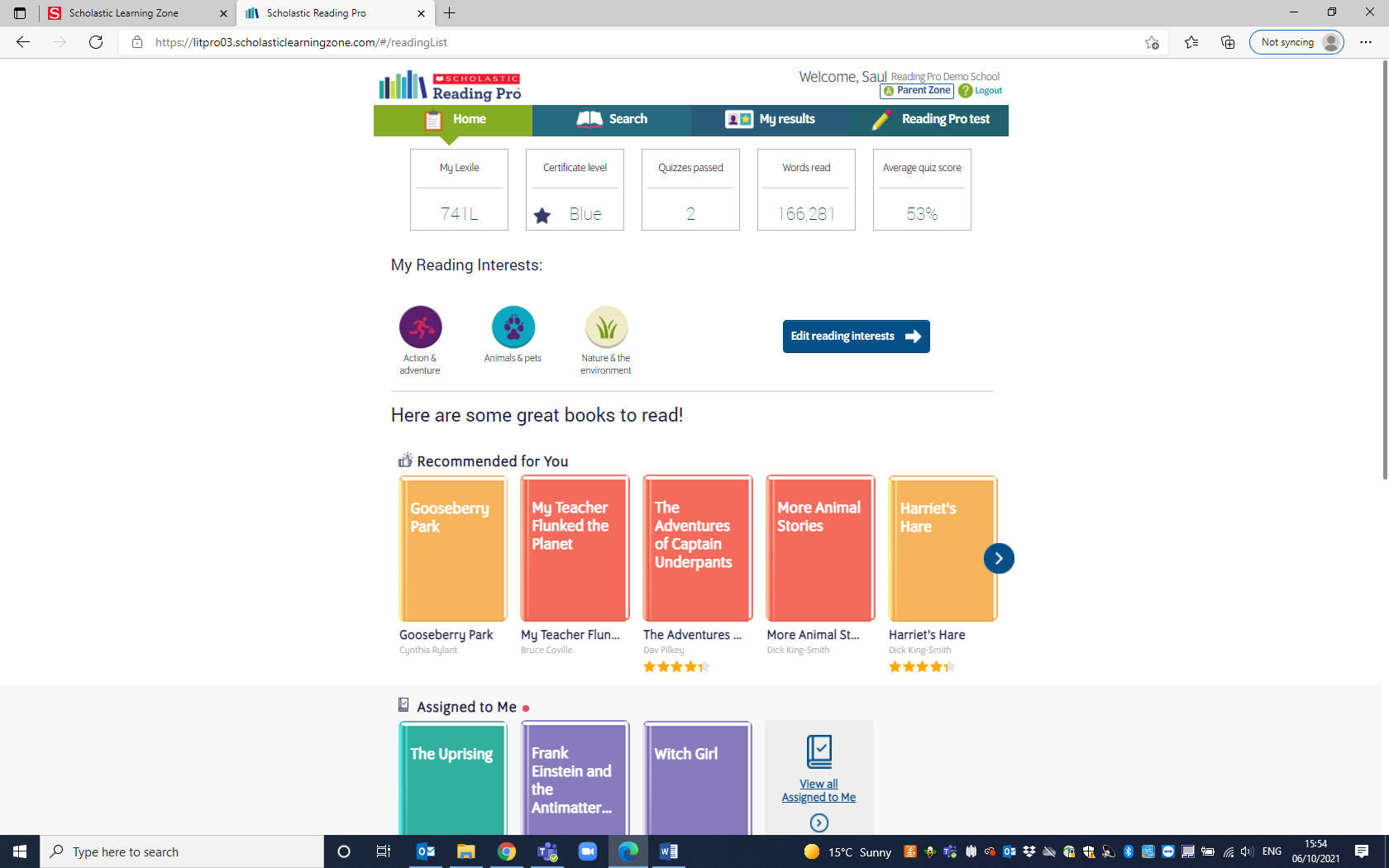


**Step 2 – Finding your way around Reading Pro**

When you log-in you will see which Programmes you can access in ‘My Zone’. Choose the ‘Reading Pro’ button.



You are now in Reading Pro and will see these different tabs across the top of the page



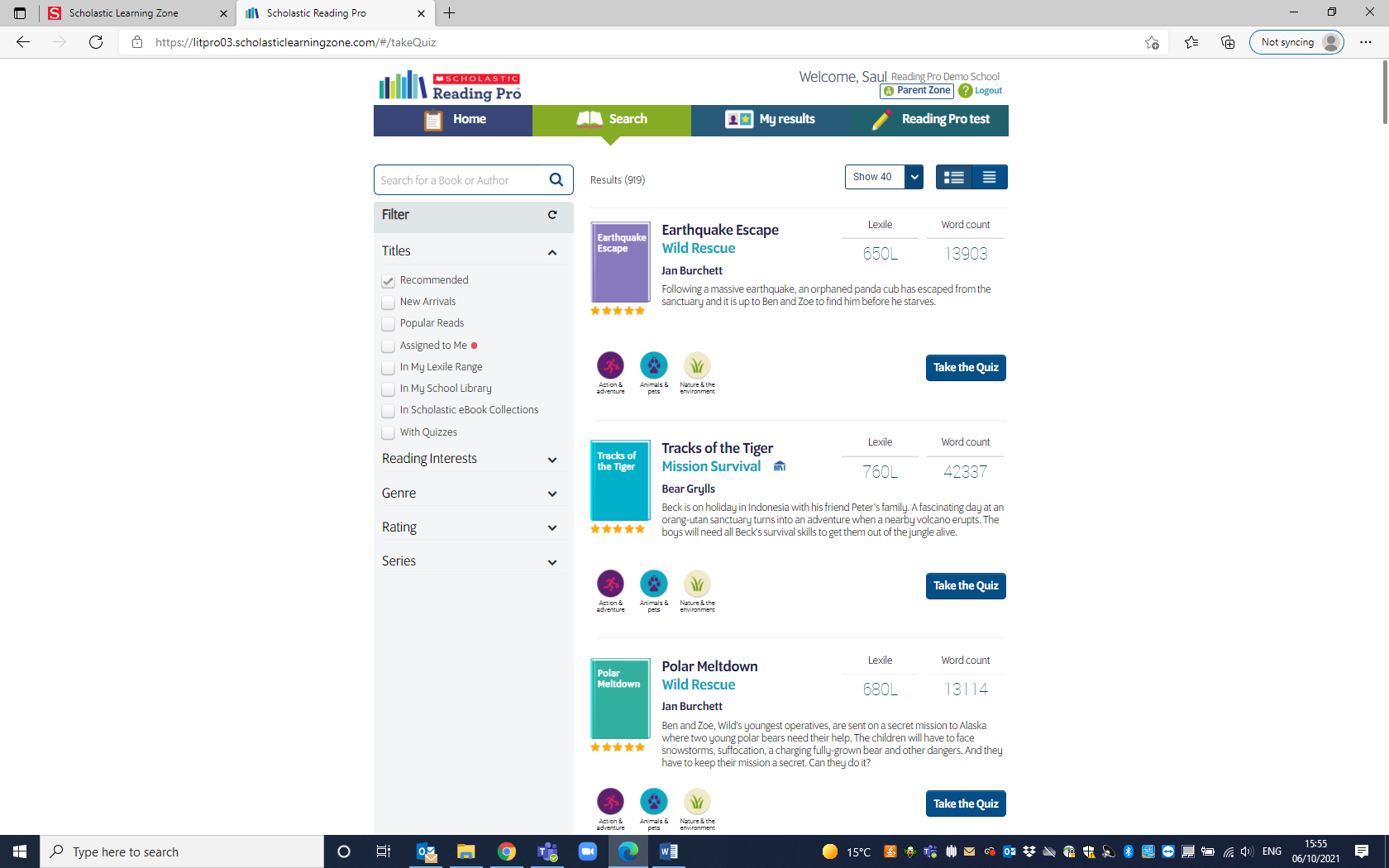
The tab you are on will go green so you know where you are.

**Home:** This screen displays tabs students can use to navigate through the program, view their work in Reading Pro, review the interests they’ve selected, and see their Recommended Reading List.

Try to encourage your child to read one (or more!) of the books on their recommended reading list and then take the quiz once they’ve read the whole book.

There’s a link to the quiz on the recommended reading list, when your child is ready to take a quiz they can either look for the book they’ve read here or use the ‘Search’ tab

**Search:** Use the tick boxes and interest selections to help refine your search.



**My Results**: shows results for the student’s activity in Scholastic Reading Pro during the school year. Teachers have the ability to add additional activities here such as reading a book that doesn’t have a quiz, or presenting a book report.

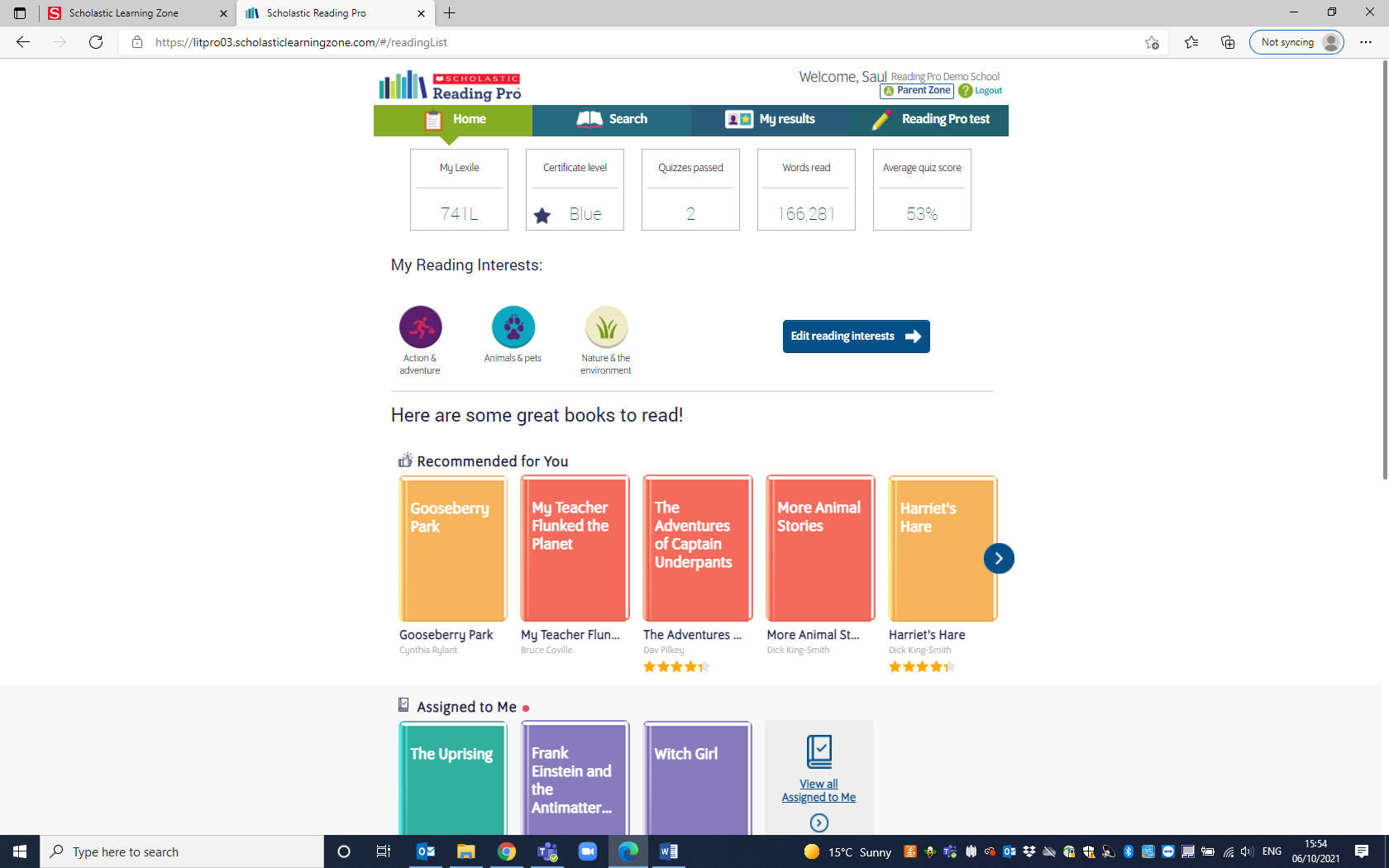
**Reading Pro test**: you won’t need to access this tab at home as the class teacher will tell the children when it’s time to take the next test.

**Step 3 – What to do at home**

Choose a book from the recommended Reading List and have your child read the book. When the book has been read, take the quiz (your child that is, not you, the adult☺. We are checking that they have understood the book and reading and understanding the questions that are being asked is part of that).

Make a note in your child’s reading diary that they have attempted or completed a new quiz so the teacher can monitor your child’s progress and award reading certificates as they are earned.

There is a dedicated section for parents/carers to give you an overview of performance including weekly activity, reading report card, quizzes taken and recommended books to read. You can access the Parent Zone by clicking on “Parent Zone” in the top right corner.



There’s lots of research that links reading proficiency to successful learning and we would like you as parents and carers to help us encourage a culture of reading at home as well as at school.

In the 2015 Kids & Family Reading Report, conducted by Scholastic and YouGov, 89% of 6-8 year olds, and 82% of 9-11 year olds either ‘liked a lot’ or ‘loved’ being read to.

*“Reading aloud is the single most important factor to help children become proficient, avid readers”* (Calkins, 2000).

More than three-quarters of children ages 0–5 (77%) are read aloud to at home 5–7 days a week. This declines to fewer than four in 10 kids ages 6–8 (37%), and one in five kids ages 9–11 (20%). (2015 Kids & Family Reading Report, conducted by Scholastic and YouGov)

We would like to encourage you to read to your child or have your child read to you at home. To continue to grow as a reader, encourage your child to:

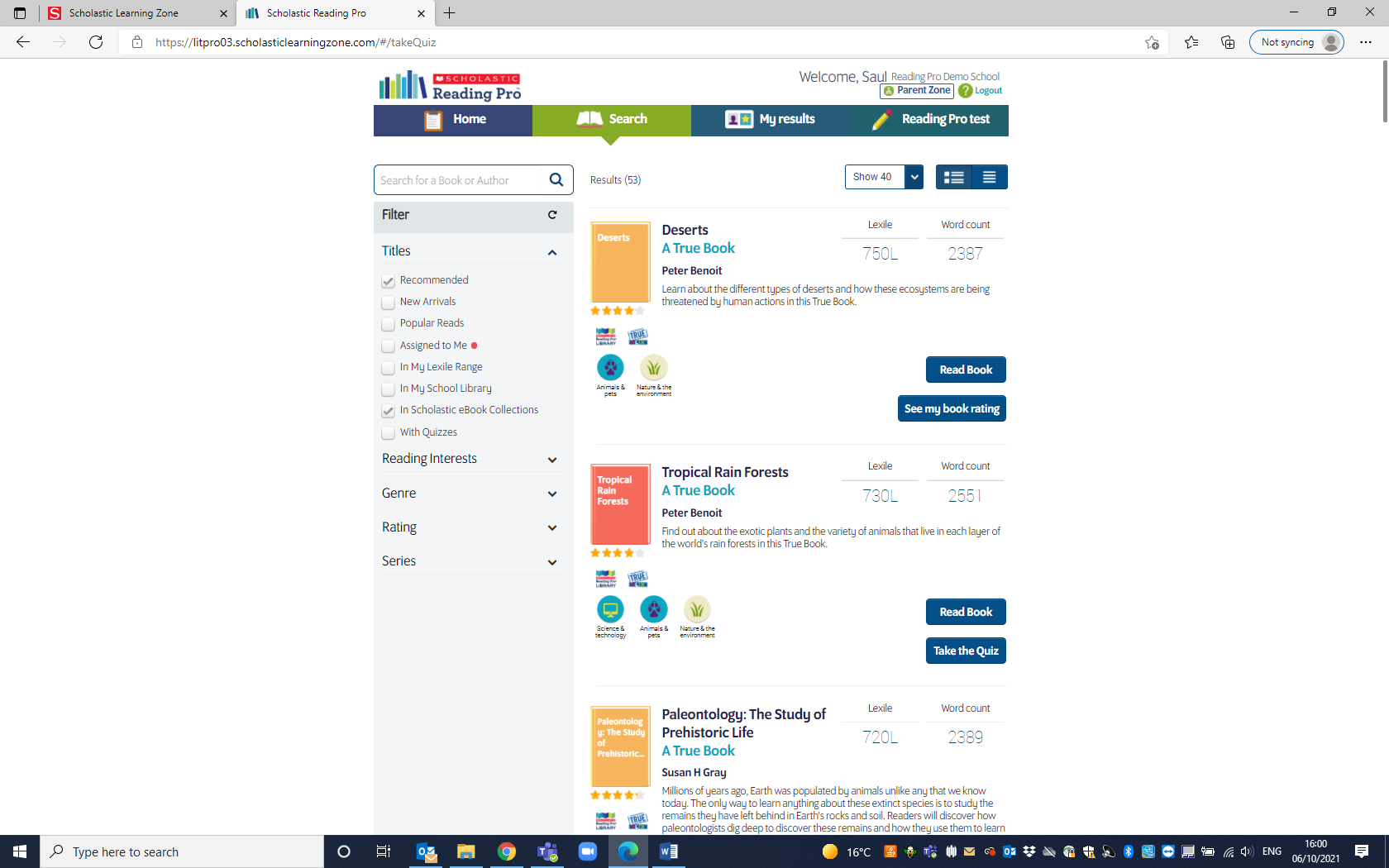
* Read 20 minutes a day from books you find within a Lexile range of about 50 Lexile points above to 100 points below his/her current Lexile measure.
* Choose books on a variety of topics, fiction and non-fiction
* Discuss books they are reading with friends and family, asking questions before, during, and after.
* Keep track of new vocabulary learned and use new words in conversation and writing.
* Use context clues and a dictionary to understand unfamiliar words.

**Step 4 – Reading Pro Library**

As a school we also have access to the Reading Pro Library, which is a collection of eBooks that can be streamed to any device, the same way that Reading Pro can be accessed.

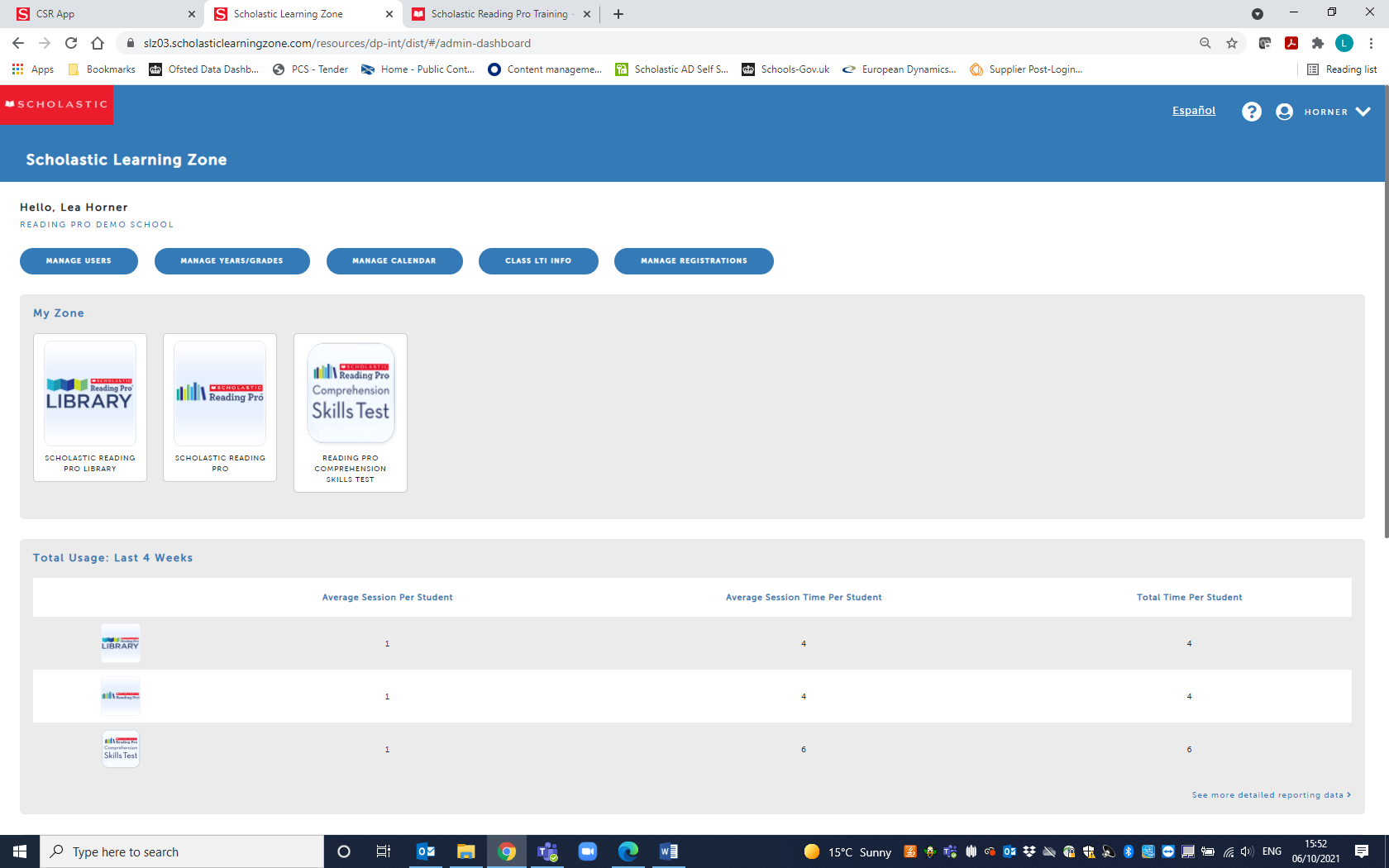
If you don’t have any books at home within your child’s lexile range (50 points above and 100 points below their personal lexile level) and your child hasn’t brought a book home from the school library, you can choose one of the eBooks to read.

We suggest using the Reading Pro search tab to find an ebook to read, by ticking the ‘In Scholastic eBook Collections’ filter and also the ‘recommended’ filter.

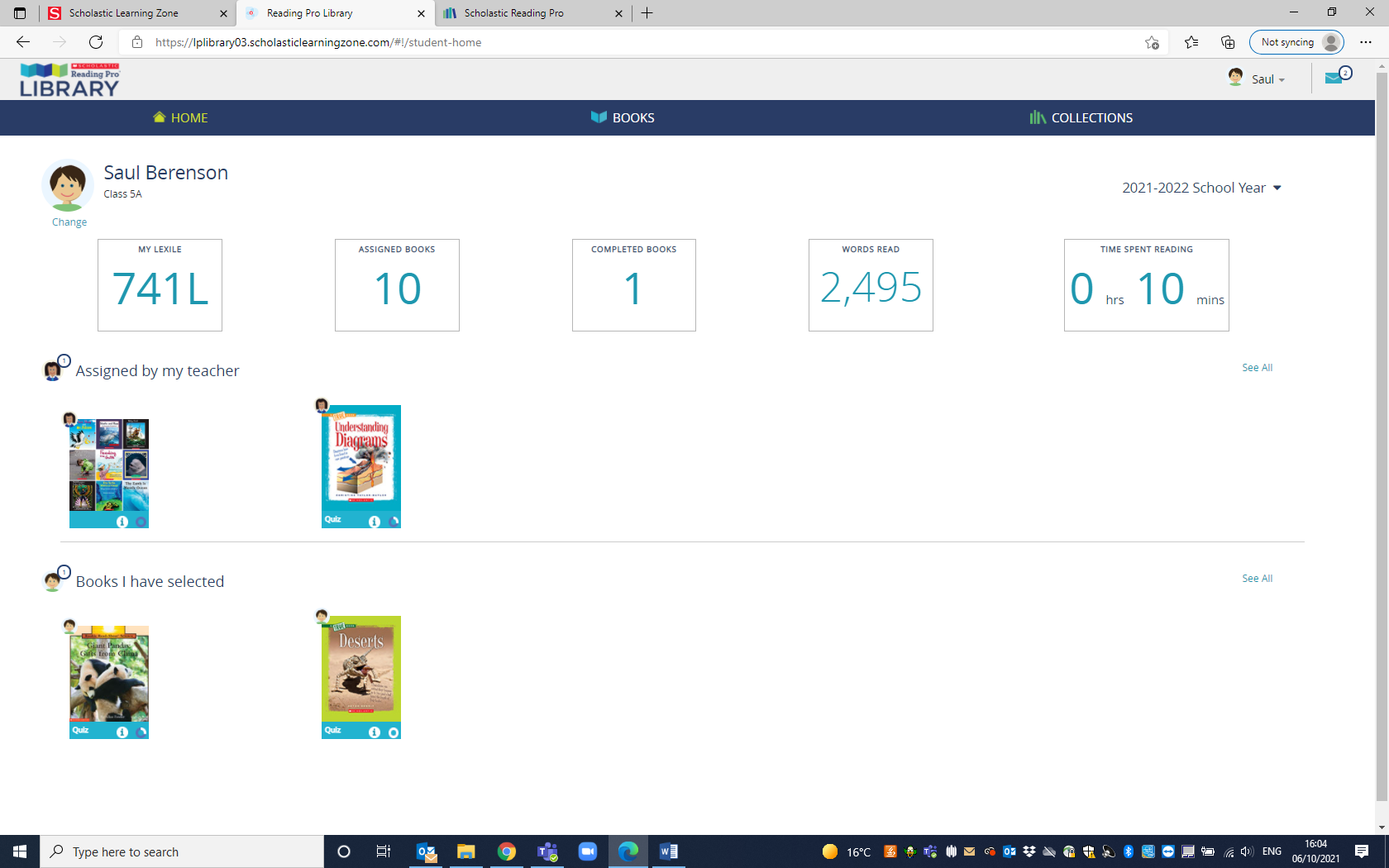


By clicking on ‘read book’ you will be taken straight to the book in the Reading Pro Library.

Alternatively, if your child has been assigned a book to read or is part way through an eBook, click on the Reading Pro Library button in ‘My Zone’

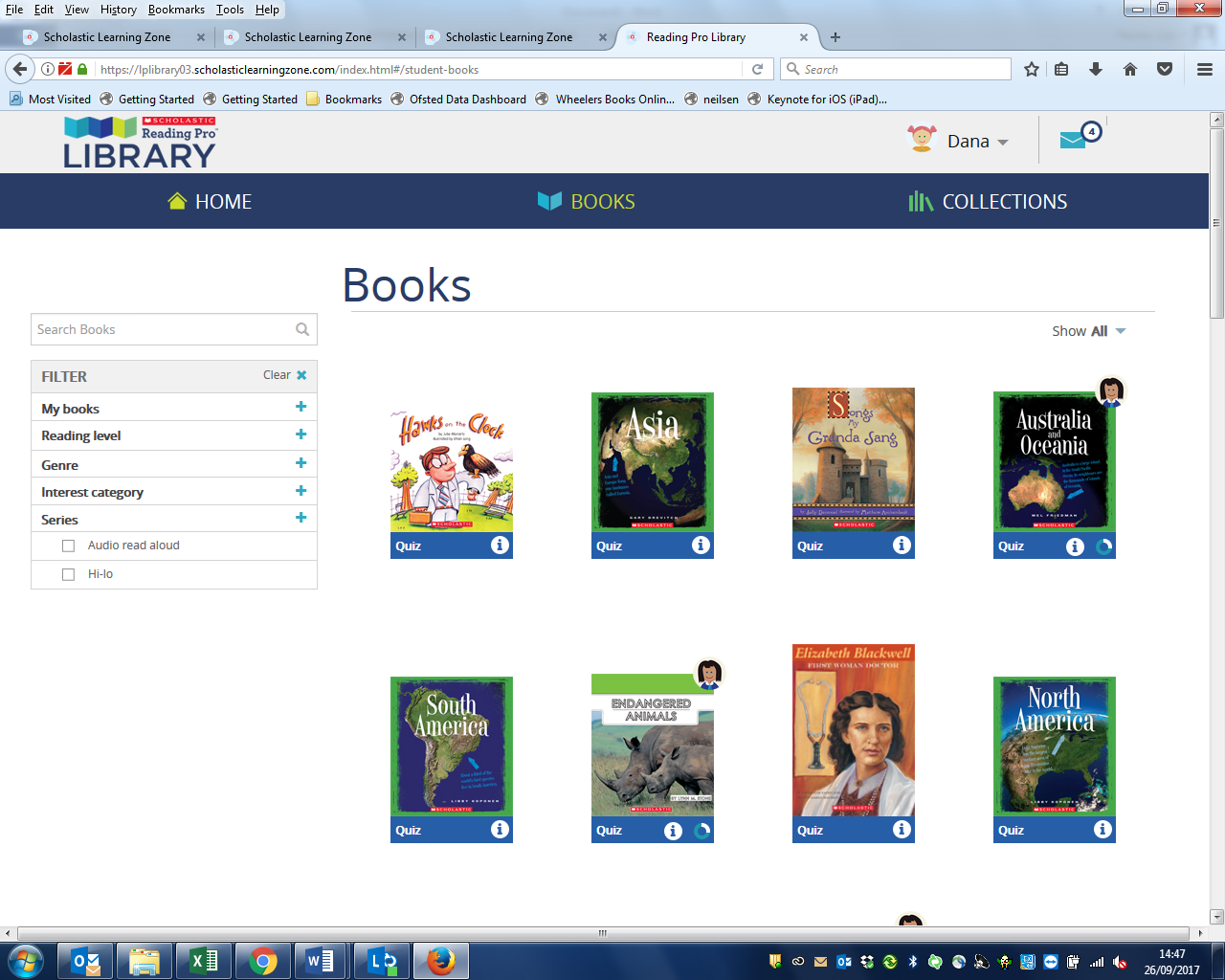


On the ‘Home’ tab your child will see any books that were assigned by their teacher and also any books that they have selected.



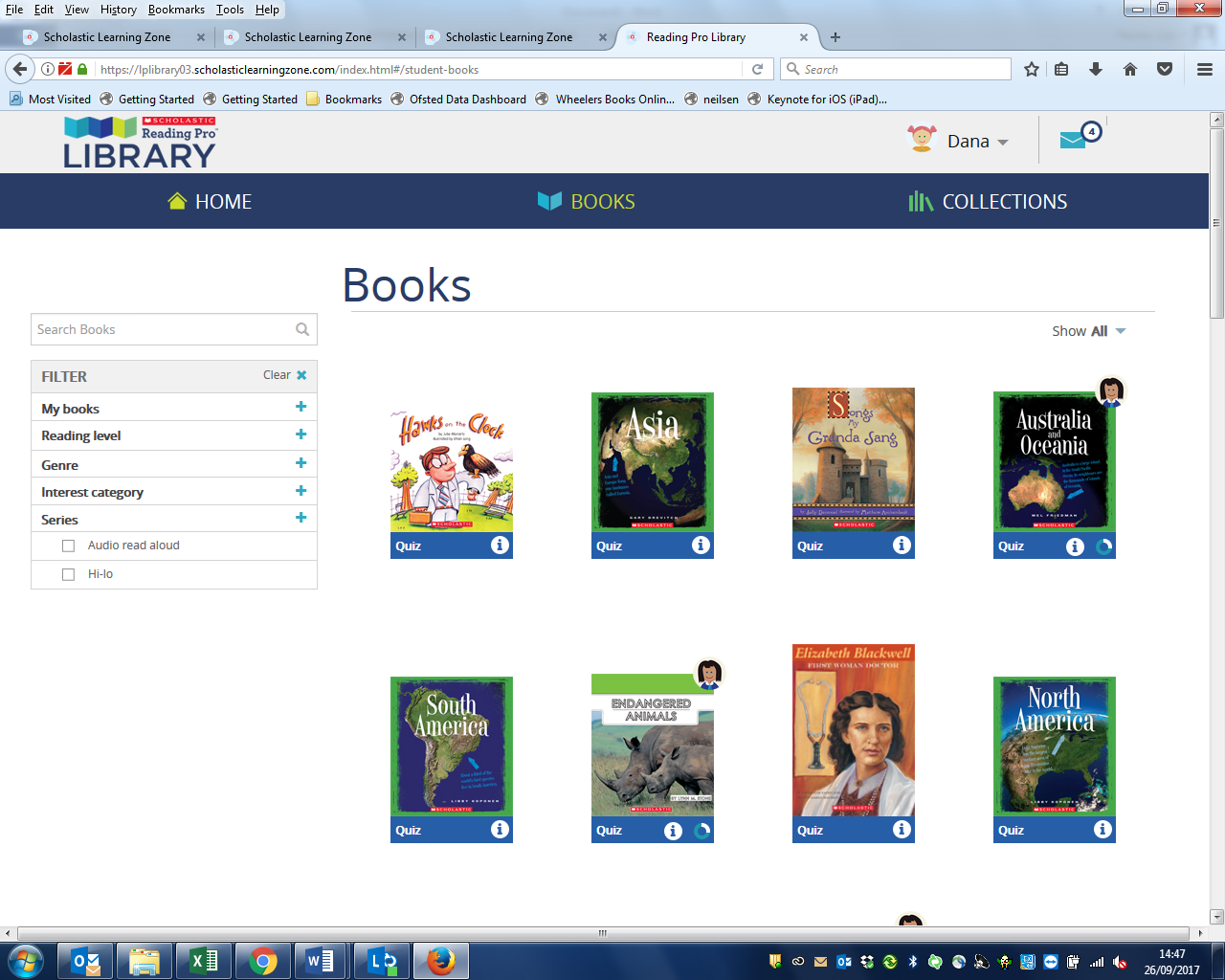
Click on the book to open it and start reading.

To choose a book to read go to the ‘Books’ tab and use the filters down the left hand side if you want to create a smaller selection to choose from.



In **Reading Level** – you can choose, “books in my lexile range”

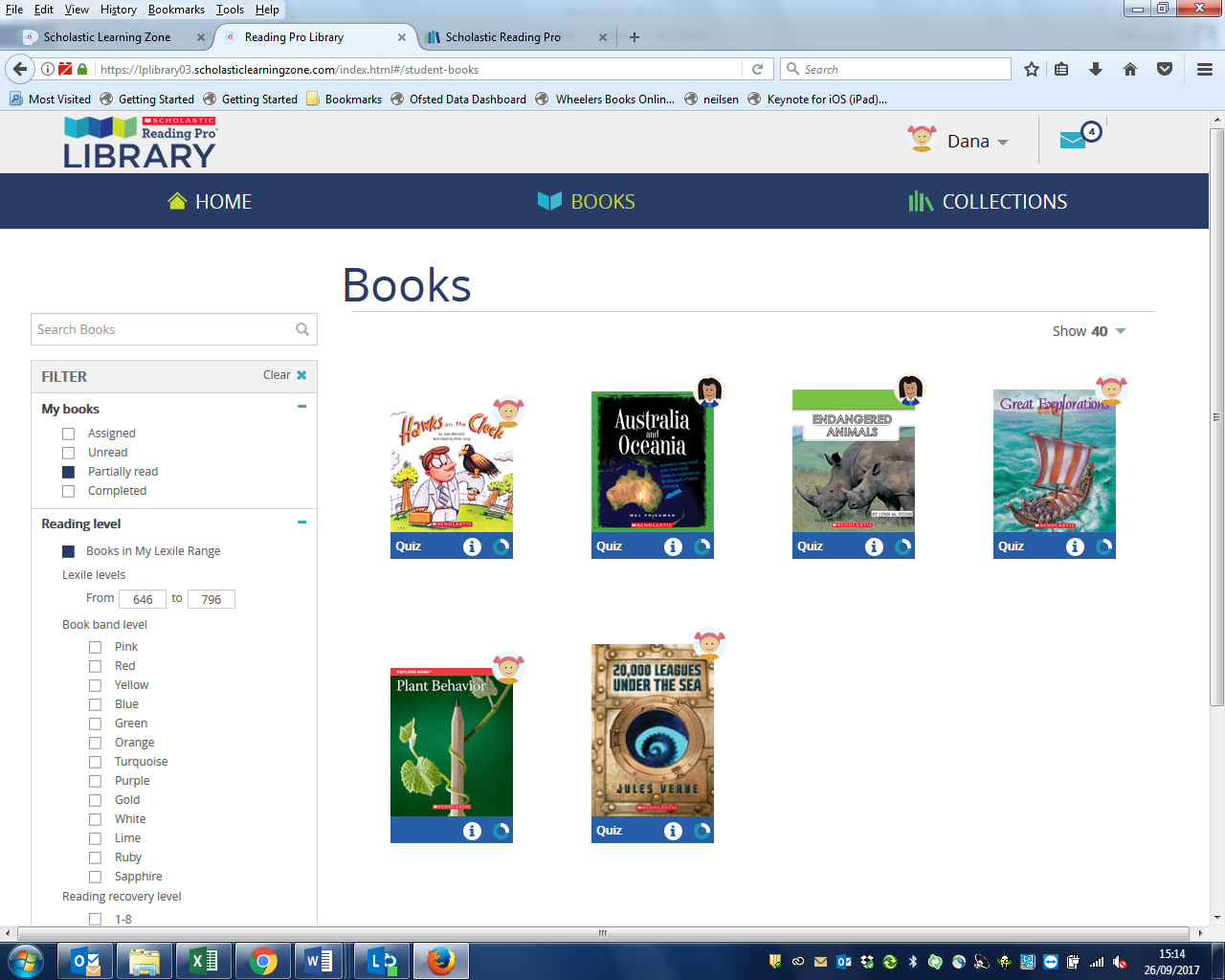
Any titles that have been assigned to your child by the teacher will be indicated by the teachers’ avatar on the top right corner of the book



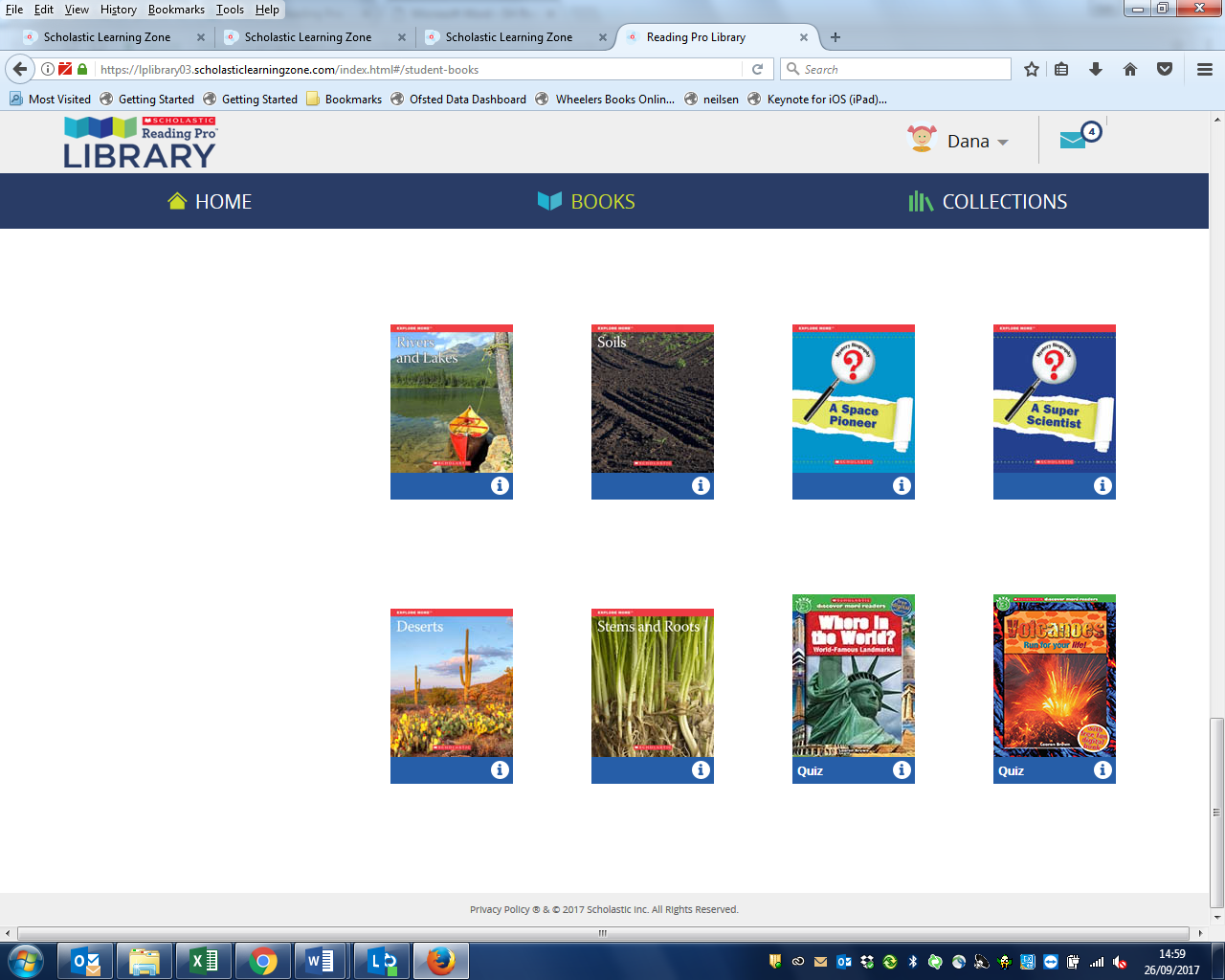
When your child has finished reading the book they can click the button at the top of the screen to take the quiz.



They may not be able to finish the book in one go and are able to come back and pick-up where they left off at another time – use the filter under **‘My Books’** to help find books that they have started to read but haven’t completed yet.



Please remember that not all of the eBooks have quizzes, you can see which books have a quiz when you are on the ‘Books’ tab



Make a note in your child’s reading diary when they have attempted or completed a new quiz and also make a note of any books that have been read that do not have a quiz. The teacher will be able to record the book on the student’s activities in Reading Pro and this will then show up in the **‘**My Results tab’ on Reading Pro.

**Supported Browsers and Operating Systems**

Scholastic Reading Pro supports the following web browsers and operating systems:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Browser** | **Operating System** |
| Internet Explorer 9.x or 10.x | Windows 7, Windows Vista, Windows XP |
| Safari 5.x or higher | Mac OSX, iOS6, iOS7 |
| Firefox 10.x or higher | Windows 7, Windows Vista, Windows XP, Mac OSX, Android 4.x |
| Chrome 23 or higher | Windows 7, Windows Vista, Windows XP, Mac OSX, Android 4.x |
| Android 4.x or higher | Android 4.x |

If you are not sure which version of a browser you are using, open your web browser and go to <http://whatbrowser.org/>.

Please note that because Reading Pro was developed with the latest web technology, it will not run properly on Internet Explorer 8. If you are using IE8, you will need to upgrade to a more recent version of Internet Explorer.

Reading Pro Library supports the following web browsers and operating systems:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Browser/Device** | **Operating System** |
| Internet Explorer 10 or higher | Windows 7, Windows Vista, Windows XP |
| Safari 5.x or higher | Mac OSX, iOS6 |
| Firefox 16.x or higher | Windows 7, Windows Vista, Windows XP, Mac OSX, Android 4.x |
| Chrome 23 or higher | Windows 7, Windows Vista, Windows XP, Mac OSX, Android 4.x |
| Android 4.x or higher | Android 4.x |
| iPad 2/3 | iOS 6 & 7 |