Parent's Guide to
AR BookFinder

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Name _____

ATOS Book Levels (ZPD Range) _____

Interest Level

_____ LG (Lower Grades, K–3)
_____ MG (Middle Grades, 4–8)
_____ MG+ (Middle Grades Plus, 6 and up)
_____ UG (Upper Grades, 9–12)

Dear Parent or Guardian,

There are many things you can do to help your child become a better reader:

- Read with your child.
- Start a home library.
- Ask questions about the books your child has read.

When you make learning a family affair, there's no limit to the success your child can achieve!

Selecting the right books for your child to read is easier than ever.

Visit www.arbookfind.com to access AR BookFinder.

With just a few clicks, you can search for titles at the appropriate level that your child will find interesting and enjoyable.

RENAISSANCE™
LEARNING
Accelerating learning for all
www.renlearn.com

Find Books and Create Book Lists in Seconds!

Quick Search

To use Quick Search in AR BookFinder:

1. Go to **www.arbookfind.com**.
2. Click the **Quick Search** tab (on the top of the page).
3. Type a book title, author, topic, or quiz number into the blank field.
4. Click **Go**.
5. To narrow the results, select any of the options on the left of the screen under **Refine Your Search**. You can continue to refine your search until you get your desired results.
6. To create a book list from the titles you have found, click **Add to AR BookBag** below the description of any book you want to add to your list.

AR BookBag

The AR BookBag is a place to create your own book list. This list can be printed and taken to the library or bookstore. It cannot be saved in AR BookFinder. However, you can save the list (a PDF file) to your computer's hard drive.

AR BookFinder Help

For information about specific features of AR BookFinder, click **Help** in the upper-right corner.

Buy from Amazon.com

Located on the right side of a book's description page is the Buy from Amazon.com button. You can use this to purchase books not available at your child's school or local library.

Notes:

If you do not see the Buy from Amazon.com button, you will see this message: A book matching this AR Quiz is not available from Amazon.com, based on ISBN(s).

Renaissance Learning cannot guarantee that a particular book will be available through Amazon.com.

Students do not see this button as long as they selected "Student" when accessing AR BookFinder.

Refine Your Search to Zero In on Specific Books

Advanced Search

The Advanced Search tab allows you to enter more search criteria such as ATOS book level, interest level, topics/subtopics, fiction/nonfiction, and language to get more specific results.

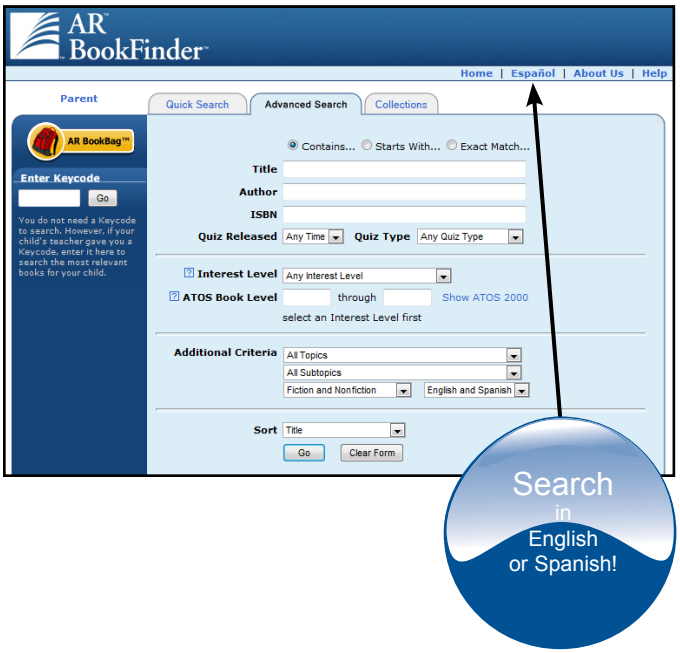
1. Click the **Advanced Search** tab (on the top of the page).
2. To determine the parameters of your search, select **Contains**, **Starts With**, or **Exact Match**.
3. Enter your search criteria and click **Go**.

   To be sure that the results are appropriate for your child, we recommend that you enter an ATOS book level. The ATOS book level is provided by your child's teacher or librarian. The ATOS book level may be written on the first page of this document.

   When entering an ATOS book level, you are also required to enter an interest level.

   For more information on ATOS book levels and interest levels, click the question mark icon.

   If you are uncertain what books may interest your child, choose a topic and a subtopic to see a list of book categories.
4. When AR BookFinder returns your list of search results, you can narrow the results list by selecting any of the options on the left of the screen under **Refine Your Search** (not shown). You can continue to refine your search until you get your desired results.
5. You can add any of these books to your AR BookBag.



Collections

You can view four different types of book collections: Awards, State Lists, Librarians' Picks, and What Kids Are Reading.

You can add books from any of these lists to your AR BookBag.

1. Click the **Collections** tab on the top of the page.
2. Select a collection and continue to click on your choices until you locate the desired book list.

Awards	State Lists	Librarian's Picks	What Kids Are Reading
You can view some of the most commonly referenced award lists. The Collections tab provides access to some of the most commonly referenced award lists, but not all.	You can view recommended reading lists published by library or reading associations for most states.	Each fall, librarians and media specialists are invited to vote for the books published in the prior year that they recommend most to their students. You can view the top 50 titles for each interest level for each year.	The books found using the What Kids Are Reading search come from Renaissance Learning's annual publication, *What Kids Are Reading: The Book-Reading Habits of Students in American Schools*. To see the titles in rank order or to simply learn more about this exciting report, please visit: www.renlearn.com/whatkidsarereading.

If you have questions about AR BookFinder or how to best help support your child's reading practice, please contact your child's teacher or librarian.

What Is Accelerated Reader (AR)?

AR is a computer program that helps teachers and librarians manage and monitor children's independent reading practice. Your child picks a book at his or her own level and reads at his or her own pace. When finished, your child takes a short quiz on the computer. Passing the quiz indicates that your child understood what was read. AR gives children, teachers, and librarians feedback based on the quiz results, which the teacher and librarian then use to help your child set goals and direct ongoing reading practice.

Children using AR choose their own books to read, rather than having one assigned to them. This makes reading a much more enjoyable experience as they can choose books that are interesting to them. Teachers and librarians help your child choose books at an appropriate readability level that are challenging without being frustrating, ensuring that your child can pass the quiz and experience success.

If your child does not do well on the quiz, the teacher or librarian may:

- Help your child choose another book that is more appropriate.
- Ask more probing questions as your child reads and before your child takes a quiz.
- Pair your child with another student.
- Have the book read to your child.

In most cases, children really enjoy taking the quizzes. Since they are reading books at their reading and interest levels, they are likely to be successful. This is satisfying for most children. Best of all, they learn and grow at their own pace.

What Is the ATOS Book Level?

Book level represents the difficulty of the text and is determined using the ATOS readability formula. For example, a book level of 4.5 means the text could likely be read independently by a student whose reading skills are at the level of a typical fourth-grader in the fifth month of school. The content of the book, however, may or may not be appropriate. The interest level will give you a recommendation regarding the appropriateness of the content.

What Is the Interest Level?

The interest level attached to the book indicates age group appropriateness. Interest level is based on a book's content including theme, characterization, and plot. The interest levels are based on the recommendations of the publisher and/or literary book reviews by professional organizations. However, the final decision on whether the content of a book is appropriate for a particular child is left to parents, school librarians, and teachers.

To help you choose the books most appropriate for your children, Accelerated Reader quizzes are divided into four interest levels:

- LG (Lower Grades, K–3)
- MG (Middle Grades, 4–8)
- MG+ (Middle Grades Plus, 6 and up)
- UG (Upper Grades, 9–12)

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