

A Parent's Guide to AR BookFinder



Name _____

ZPD Range (ATOS Book Levels) _____

Interest Level

- Lower Grades (LG)—K-3
- Middle Grades (MG)—4-8
- Upper Grades (UG)—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. Just visit www.arbookfind.com to access AR BookFinder. With a few clicks of a mouse, you can search for titles at the appropriate level that your child will find interesting and enjoyable.

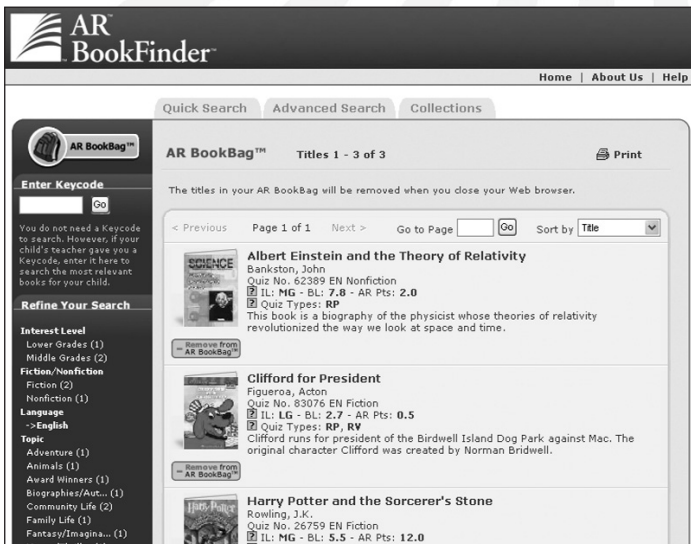
Sincerely,

Find Books and Create Book Lists in Seconds!

Quick Search

The Quick Search tab in AR BookFinder works somewhat like a Google™ search because you will type keywords into a blank field.

1. Go to www.arbookfind.com.
2. From the **Quick Search** tab on the top of the page, type a book title, author, or topic into the blank field and click **Go**.
3. 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.
4. If you want to create a book list from the titles you are searching, click **Add to AR BookBag** button below the cover 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 “report” (a PDF) to your computer’s hard drive.

AR BookFinder Help

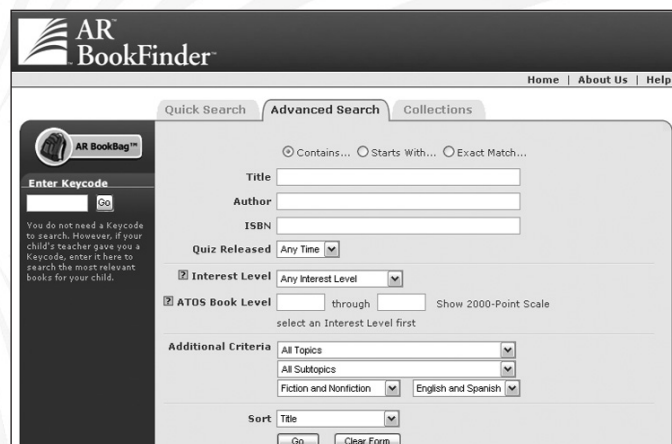
Located in the upper right hand corner is the Help button. Click on it for helpful information such as how to use specific features of AR BookFinder.

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. Select **Contains**, **Starts With**, or **Exact Match** to determine the parameters of your search.
3. Select your search criteria and click **Go**.
 - a. It is recommended that you enter an ATOS Book Level to be sure that the results are appropriate for your child. When entering an ATOS Book Level, you are also required to enter an Interest Level. (Click on the question mark icon for more information on ATOS Book Levels and Interest Levels.)
 - b. It may be helpful to choose topic and subtopic to see a list of book categories if you are uncertain what books may interest your child.
4. 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.
5. You can add any of these books to your AR BookBag.



The screenshot shows the AR BookFinder website's Advanced Search interface. At the top, there are navigation links for Home, About Us, and Help. Below that, there are three tabs: Quick Search, Advanced Search (which is selected), and Collections. The main search area includes a search bar with a 'Go' button and a 'Clear Form' button. The search criteria are as follows: Title, Author, and ISBN are text input fields. Quiz Released is a dropdown menu set to 'Any Time'. Interest Level is a dropdown menu set to 'Any Interest Level'. ATOS Book Level is a range selector with 'Show 2000-Point Scale' and 'select an Interest Level first' options. Additional Criteria includes dropdown menus for 'All Topics', 'All Subtopics', 'Fiction and Nonfiction', and 'English and Spanish'. A 'Sort' dropdown menu is set to 'Title'. On the left side, there is an 'AR BookBag' section with an 'Enter Keycode' field and a 'Go' button. A note below the field states: 'You do not need a Keycode to search. However, if your child's teacher gave you a Keycode, enter it here to search the most relevant books for your child.'

Collections

You can view three different types of book collections, including Awards, State Lists, and Librarians' Picks. 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 one of the three collections and continue to click on your choices until you locate the desired book list.

Awards

ALA Notable / Best Books
Caldecott Honor
Caldecott Medal
Coretta Scott King Award / Honors
Newbery Honor
Newbery Medal

State Lists

View and compare required / recommended reading from different states.

Librarians' Picks

Book lists for all Interest Levels containing librarians' recommendations for books published during specific years.

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 is a computer program that helps teachers manage and monitor children's independent reading practice. Your child picks a book at his own level and reads it at his own pace. When finished, your child takes a short quiz on the computer. (Passing the quiz is an indication that your child understood what was read.) AR gives both children and teachers feedback based on the quiz results, which the teacher then uses 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 reading 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 may help him:

- Choose another book that is more appropriate.
- Ask more probing questions as your child reads and before he takes a quiz.
- Pair your child with another student, or even have the book read to your child.

In most cases, children really enjoy taking the quizzes. Since they're 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 Levels are determined using the ATOS readability formula and represent the difficulty of the text. 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 of the appropriateness of the content.)

What is the Interest Level?

To help you choose the books most appropriate for your children, Accelerated Reader quizzes are divided into three Interest Levels: Lower Grades (LG), Middle Grades (MG), and Upper Grades (UG). The Interest Level reflects the judgement of the book's publisher and the opinions of the professionals at Renaissance Learning. 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.