Parent's Guide to
AR BookFinder

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Name _____

ATOS Book Levels (ZPD Range) _____

Interest Level

_____ LY (Lower Years, Ages 5–8)   _____ UY (Upper Years, Ages 14 and above)

_____ MY (Middle Years, Ages 9–13)

Dear Parent or Guardian,

AR BookFinder is an exciting web-based book-searching tool from Renaissance Learning. With this free online tool you can search for interesting and appropriate books for your child, quickly and easily, in the knowledge that there is an Accelerated Reader quiz available for each book.

We encourage you to explore this book-searching tool with your child. Of course, Internet access and comfort levels vary; therefore, you may wish to try this tool on your own or during a visit to your local library. Alternatively, you may wish to make an appointment with your child's teacher and/or librarian to explore the potential of this helpful tool.

For your convenience, your child's ATOS book level(s) and appropriate interest level(s) are indicated above.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher and/or librarian.

Sincerely,

_____

RENAISSANCE™ LEARNING
Accelerating learning for all
www.renlearn.co.uk

Find Books and Create Book Lists in Seconds!

Quick Search

To use the Quick Search tab in AR BookFinder:

1. Go to **www.arbookfind.co.uk**.
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** [+ 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 bookshop. 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.

Refine Your Search to Zero In on Specific Books

Advanced Search

The Advanced Search tab allows you to refine your search. Here you can enter more search criteria such as ATOS book level, interest level, topics/subtopics and fiction/non-fiction 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. Select 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.

   Before entering an ATOS book level, you must enter an interest level.

   Click the question mark icon for more information on ATOS book levels and interest levels.

   If you are uncertain what books may interest your child, choose a topic and a subtopic to see a list of book categories.

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.

Collections

Collections are special groups of book titles. You can add books from 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	Reading Promotions	What Kids Are Reading
You can view some of the most commonly referenced award lists.	View collections from reading promotions.	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 British Schools*. To see the titles in rank order or to simply learn more about this exciting report, please visit: http://www.readforpleasure.co.uk/wkar/

If you have questions about AR BookFinder or how to best help support your child's reading practice, please contact your child's teacher and/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 it at his or her 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 children, teachers, and librarians feedback based on the quiz results, which the teacher and librarian then use to help your child set targets 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 and 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 pupil.
- 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. Book levels are determined using the ATOS readability formula. For example, a book level of 4.5 means the text could likely be read independently by a typical fifth-year pupil 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?

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 organisations. 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 three interest levels:

- LY (Lower Years, Ages 5–8)
- MY (Middle Years, Ages 9–13)
- UY (Upper Years, Ages 14 and above)