

The Accelerated Reader™ Program & the Livingston Parish Library System

OR How to Take the Pain Out of Finding AR Books At the Public Library

U.S. and international copyright laws protect the intellectual property contained within. The Livingston Parish Library System has obtained permission from Renaissance Learning, Inc. to reference its products and websites. For information regarding the intellectual property of Renaissance Learning please contact: Renaissance Learning, Inc., P.O. Box 8036, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-8036 www.renlearn.com.

Accelerated Reader, AR, AR BookFinder, ATOS and Renaissance Learning are trademarks of Renaissance Learning, Inc. and its subsidiaries registered common law, or pending registration in the United States and other countries.

Frequently Asked Questions:

- **Can my child take a quiz at the library?**

Answer: No, quizzes can only be taken at school.

- **What book level is my child required to read?**

Answer: The Accelerated Reader™ Program is a program administered by the Livingston Parish School Board and is **not** affiliated with the Livingston Parish Library system in **any** way. You must contact your child's school or teacher for information regarding requirements. We provide links to the quiz finder websites on our online catalog, but the library is **not** affiliated with these websites or the Livingston Parish School system.

- **The public library has some of their books marked “AR” with dots, does this mean my child can take a quiz on the book, and is the quiz information in the back of the book accurate?**

Answer: At one point each school bought the license for a quiz for their individual school, so each school had different quizzes available. Now, the Livingston Parish School Board subscribes to **ALL** the quizzes that Renaissance Learning creates so **all** schools in Livingston Parish have access. When quizzes are updated and changed, this sometimes changes reading levels and/or point levels so we cannot guarantee the information marked in the book is correct. We recommend **always** looking the book up in AR BookFinder to verify information.

- **What does an AR quiz look like?**

Answer: Visit: <http://www.renlearn.com/ar/quizzes.aspx> for sample AR quizzes.



TIP: Use Book Adventure for Pre-Quiz Practice

Book Adventure is a FREE reading motivation program for children in grades K-8. Children create their own book lists from over 7,000 recommended titles, take multiple choice quizzes on the books they've read, and earn points and prizes for their literary successes. Book Adventure was created by and is maintained by Sylvan Learning.

Book Adventure not affiliated with the Livingston Parish Library, AR, or the Livingston Parish School system, but they do offer quizzes on books that **also** have AR quizzes.

We suggest parents research books, on their child's reading level, that have BOTH an AR Quiz and a Book Adventure Quiz. Once your child reads their book they can take the quiz on Book Adventure to see if they are prepared for the AR Quiz.

**For more information visit:
www.bookadventure.org**

Quiz/Book Finder Websites

There are two websites available for finding out whether or not a book has an AR quiz: AR BookFinder and the Renaissance Learning Quiz Store. They have many of the same features but, depending on your search type, each has its advantages.

AR BookFinder is better for:

- Searching for a quiz for a specific book (it's easier to navigate).
- Searching by topic/subject (you can narrow your search by sub-topic, as well as general topic).

Renaissance Learning Quiz Store Website is better for:

- Searching for quizzes when points are a factor because you can sort lists by points.
- Searching by collections, which include recommended reading lists, and award winning titles.
Note: You can also search collections in the topic/subject area of the Advanced Search of AR BookFinder. You can refine your search easily on the left side of the window. Also AR BookFinder results have book covers for kids to see.
- Searching by series (not available at all on AR BookFinder).

AR BookFinder Website - www.arbookfind.com

AR BookFinder is a Web-based search tool that was created for parents to search for appropriate Accelerated Reader books for their children.



Quick Search on AR BookFinder

The Quick Search in AR BookFinder works similarly to a Google™ search because you will type keywords into the blank field.

1. Go to www.arbookfind.com.
2. From the *Quick Search* tab, type a book title, topic, or author's name into the blank field and click *Go* to get the *Search Results*.

Advanced Search on AR BookFinder

Advanced Search allows you to search based on Quiz Released date, Interest Level, ATOS Book Level, topics, subtopics, fiction and nonfiction, and language.

1. Click the *Advanced Search* tab.
2. Select *Contains*, *Starts With*, or *Exact Match* to determine the parameters of your search.
3. Type the Title, Author, or ISBN into the blank fields.
4. Finish selecting your search criteria and click *Go* to get the *Search Results*; click *Clear Form* if you want to return to the default settings and enter your search criteria again.

Search Results

If your search returned numerous results, you can refine your search results (on the left side of the window) by clicking the *Interest Level*, (*LG, MG, and UG*), *Fiction/Nonfiction*, *Language* (English and Spanish), and *Topic*.

Near the top right corner of your search results, you can type in a page number and click *Go* to skip to that page. You can also sort your results by Title, Author, Interest Level, Book Level, or Relevance.

AR BookBag

When you search for book titles, you can add the titles you want to your *AR BookBag*. The *AR BookBag* is intended to be a place for you to make a list of book titles that you can print and take with you to the library or bookstore to buy appropriate Accelerated Reader book for your child to read. The titles you add to the *AR BookBag* aren't saved, so make sure to print the list before logging out.

- **Adding Books to your AR BookBag**

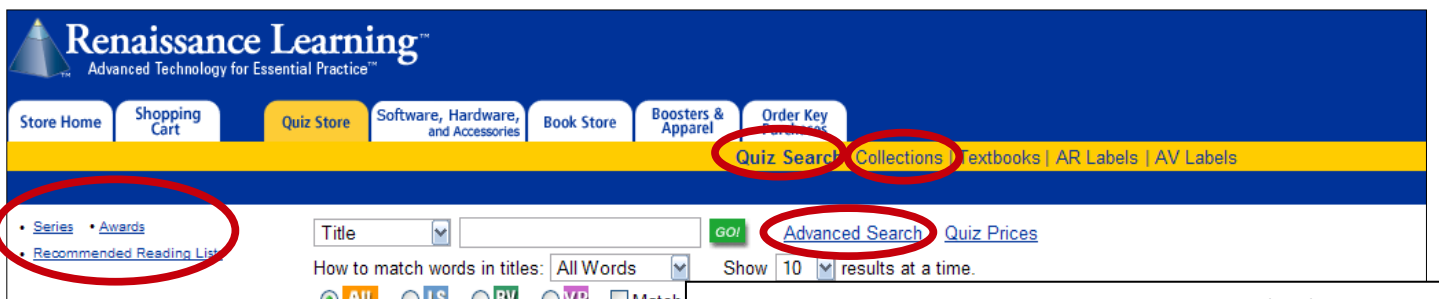
1. Click *Add to AR BookBag* next to the books you want to add to your AR BookBag.
2. When you are finished adding books to your AR Book Bag, click the *AR BookBag* icon to view the books you've added.

- **Printing the AR BookBag**

1. Click *Add to AR BookBag* to the left of each book title of your choice. When you're done adding book titles, click the *AR BookBag* icon in the upper left corner of the screen to view the titles you've added. Click *Remove from AR BookBag* next to any titles you don't want to print.
2. Click *Print* near the upper right corner of the list.
3. Select whether you want images of the book jackets to print along with the book information.
4. Select to sort the titles by *Title, Author Last Name, Quiz Number, or Book Level*.
5. Click *View Report*.
6. Save or print the report by clicking the save or print icon.

Renaissance Learning Quiz Store Website – www.renlearn.com

The Quiz Store at Renaissance Learning is an ordering tool for schools but it can be accessed on the Internet by anyone.



How to use the Advanced Search to find Accelerated Reader Quizzes

The Advanced Search is available when you are searching for quizzes in the Quiz Store. Just click [Advanced Search](#) (to the right of the **GO!** Button) to use the Advanced Search feature, then choose from the options described below and click the **GO!** button at the bottom of the page. If you want to remove the choices you've made so far and start over, click **Reset Form**. To avoid a long list of search results, narrow your search by choosing all of the criteria that apply to the titles you want to find. For example, if you choose a topic, you may also want to choose a book level range and interest level so that your search results only show titles that are appropriate for your students.

Sort results by: To choose how the results of your search will be sorted, click this drop-down list and choose an option. You can sort the quizzes alphabetically by title or author (A-Z or Z-A), by interest level and book level, by book level only, or by quiz release date.

Choosing the number of titles per page in the search results: By default, when the search is complete, you will see 50 quizzes per page. You can click the drop-down list to change this number.

Topic: To search for books on a specific topic, click this drop-down list and choose a topic.

Interest Level: Interest levels are based on the content of books, not their book levels. When you click this drop-down list, you can choose to search for quiz titles that are most appropriate for lower grades, middle grades, or upper grades.

Book Level: You can use this option to search for quiz titles that are in a specific range of book levels. Click in the first field and type the lower limit for the range; then, click in the second field (after "to") and type the upper limit for the range. For example, if you want to search for quizzes for books with book levels of 2.5 to 5.0, you would type "2.5" in the first field and "5.0" in the second field. If you search by book level, you **must** also choose an Interest Level. This will help you avoid finding titles that are appropriate for your students' reading ability but that do not have appropriate content for your students' grade level.

AR Points: You can use this option to search for quiz titles that are in a specific point level range. Click in the first field and type the lower limit for the range; then, click in the second field (after "to") and type the upper limit for the range.

Fiction/Nonfiction: To search for fiction or nonfiction titles only, click the **Fiction/Nonfiction** drop-down list and choose the type of titles you want to search for.

Language: To search for titles in a specific language (English or Spanish) or for titles in all languages, click the **Language** drop-down list and choose one of the options.

Publisher: To search for books from a specific publisher, click in this field and type the publisher's name. For example you can search by the publisher "Tor" which typically publishes in the genres of fantasy and science fiction. You could also search by Waterbook Press, a Christian publishing division of Random House, Inc.

Released in the last: To search for the quizzes that have been released recently, click this drop-down list and choose a time period.

Series, Award, or Reading Lists: To search for a [series](#), for quizzes for books that won [awards](#), or for quizzes for books on [recommended reading lists](#), click *Search by Series Name*, *Search by Awards*, or *Search Recommended Reading Lists* on the right side the page. (Note: When you use one of these links, you do not have to click the *GO!* button.)

How We Suggest Using the Quiz/Book Finder Websites and Your Library's Online Catalog

Save yourself time and frustration by searching for AR titles prior to your library visit. For example, these are the steps to take if you wanted to find books for your son who has just started 5th grade. You know that he reads a little below his grade level, he doesn't like to read, but loves anything about vampires or ghosts. Start out by getting a list of possible titles by doing an advanced search at www.renlearn.com.

1. Go to www.renlearn.com and click on *Advanced Search*
2. Under *Topic* choose: *Horror/Thriller* and press the *Go!* Button. You get results for over 2500 titles.
3. Narrow your results more by selecting titles that are *Fiction*. This narrows the results some but there are still over 2000.
4. Narrow results even more by selecting the *Interest Level* as *Middle Grades*. This narrows the results down to a little over 1000.
5. Narrow results even more by choose only books within his *Book Level* (reading level) which is 4.0 to 4.5 (high enough to challenge but low enough to not be frustrating). Now the list is narrowed now to 226 titles.
6. Finally we say that want the AR point value of the book choices to be at least 5 points. Now we have 65 possible titles.

Title	Author	LA	BL	INT	PTS	LIV Has?	State Lib Has?
All the Lovely Bad Ones: A Ghost Story	Hahn, Mary Downing	EN	4.5	MG	6	No	Yes
Blood Beast	Shan, Darren	EN	4.4	MG	8	Yes	
Blood Captain	Somper, Justin	EN	4.5	MG	18	No	Yes
The Bleeding	Windsor, Patricia	EN	4.4	MG	8	No	Yes
The Carnival Ghost	Pascal/Suzanne	EN	4.2	MG	5	Yes	
Castle Tourmandyne	Hughes, Monica	EN	4.5	MG	5	No	No
The Children's Crusade	Jablonski, Carla	EN	4.2	MG	5	Yes (e-book)	
The Curse of the Golden Heart	Pascal/Suzanne	EN	4.2	MG	5	Yes	
The Curse of the Ruby Necklace	Pascal/Suzanne	EN	4.3	MG	5	No	Yes
Dad, in Spirit	LaFaye, A.	EN	4.5	MG	5	No	Yes

7. Now that you have your list copy and paste (see instructions below) the titles into the library's online catalog to see if we own the titles. After performing the search on the above books you'll find that the Livingston Parish Library system owns 4 out of 10 but if we search the State Library Loan Shark Union Catalog we find that another 5 of the 10 are available from other libraries. So 1 of 10 we might not be able to locate. Not bad!

How To Copy and Paste:

1. Take your mouse, and place your cursor at the beginning of the text you want to copy then, click and hold the left mouse button while pulling your mouse over the text. This should highlight the text. Now release the left mouse button.
2. Now, with the cursor over the highlighted text, right click the mouse for options, and select 'copy'.
3. Go to the space you want to paste your text into and hold the cursor over the space. Right click your mouse again, and select 'paste' and you will have copied and pasted the text. :-)

Copy and Paste Shortcuts

To Copy: Highlight an area, as shown above, then hold 'Ctrl' + 'C' (For Mac users 'Apple' + 'C').

To Paste: Click your mouse where you want the text pasted, and then press 'Ctrl' + 'V' (For Mac users 'Apple' + 'S').

Helpful Websites

- Accelerated Reader™ Reading Practice Quizzes on Books Made into Movies <http://kmnet.renlearn.com/Library/R001116825GB6F70.pdf>
- Amazon (use to search for book reviews about a title) <http://www.amazon.com>
- Parent's Guide to Accelerated Reader™: <http://kmnet.renlearn.com/Library/R003985016GG79F2.pdf>
- State Library of Louisiana Loanshark Union Catalog (search the collections of all public libraries in Louisiana) <http://slla-agent.auto-graphics.com/agent/login.asp?cid=slla&lid=slla>

Bibliography

Renaissance Learning, Inc. "Adding Titles to the AR BookBag." AR BookFinder. 2008. Renaissance Learning, Inc. 15 Oct. 2008 <http://www.arbookfind.com/help/usrl/adding_titles.htm>.

Renaissance Learning, Inc. "Advanced Search." AR BookFinder. 2008. Renaissance Learning, Inc. 15 Oct. 2008 <http://www.arbookfind.com/help/usrl/advanced_search.htm>.

Renaissance Learning, Inc. "AR BookBag." AR BookFinder. 2008. Renaissance Learning, Inc. 15 Oct. 2008 <http://www.arbookfind.com/help/usrl/ar_bookbag.htm>.

Renaissance Learning, Inc. "How to use the Advanced Search to find Accelerated Reader and Vocabulary Practice (Accelerated Vocabulary) Quizzes." Renaissance Learning Quiz Store. 2008. Renaissance Learning, Inc. 15 Oct. 2008 <http://www.renlearn.com/store/helpus/help_advanced.asp>.

Renaissance Learning, Inc. "Printing the AR BookBag." AR BookFinder. 2008. Renaissance Learning, Inc. 15 Oct. 2008 <http://www.arbookfind.com/help/usrl/printing_the_titles.htm>.

Renaissance Learning, Inc. "Quiz Search." AR BookFinder. 2008. Renaissance Learning, Inc. 15 Oct. 2008 <http://www.arbookfind.com/help/usrl/quick_search.htm>.

Renaissance Learning, Inc. "Search Results." AR BookFinder. 2008. Renaissance Learning, Inc. 15 Oct. 2008 <<http://www.arbookfind.com/help/usrl/searchresults.htm>>.