

SUMMER READING

BOOKS AND BACKPACKS

Frequently Asked Questions:

What kind of books do you offer?

Mackin offers the largest K-12 age-appropriate database in the world. We feature more than 2 million titles from 18,000 publishers on our website. We currently have the largest selection of leveled books for school-age children. You can be assured that we will work with you to find the best titles to meet your needs.

What if I don't know what I want?

Our development specialists and in-house professionals would be happy to prepare a custom title list for you at no cost. We can post our recommendations on your Mackin.com account so that you can make changes online. If you'd rather, we can mail or fax a list that includes review sources, reading or interest levels, and annotations. To browse our extensive database, simply register and log on to Mackin.com. Search for specific titles you have in mind, or explore our suggested lists for award, state, or theme book lists.

If you need further direction, our Reading Services Project Coordinators will be happy to discuss any questions or ideas you have. Call Stephanie Reiersen or Mesa Heise at 800-245-9540. Or call whenever you have time - our phones are answered 24/7 by live operators that will make sure your information is relayed to our Project Coordinators at the beginning of the next business day.

How much do your books cost?

You will enjoy discounts up to 40% off list price simply by using Mackin. We provide the best bottom line price on the nation's most popular school titles because of our exclusive acquisition service with over 18,000 publishers.

How many dollars should I allocate per student?

The beauty of working with Mackin is in our customizable features. Your price per bag will vary, depending on your book selections, book quantities, and bag type goals. Mackin recommends allocating 3-7 paperback books in each bag. We offer two types of bags: a nylon drawstring backpack and a plastic drawstring bag; you will find more details about these bags in the attached Mackin reading bag order form.

Generally you can figure your reading bag budget something like this:

(Price of the books within one bag + Price of selected bag)
x Number of Students = Grand Total

What can I do with Mackin's reading bags?

Get creative! Your students will be motivated by taking home their own books in stylish bags. Use this excitement to enhance your summer reading program! Some ideas:

Battle of the Books – Which book is the most popular with your students? Select book nominees from your state's book award list, or create your own book award. Send each student home with a backpack full of the book nominees, and ask them to vote for their favorite at the end of the summer.

Summer Book Club – Create discussion and encourage critical thinking by developing a summer book club. Send each participant home with a bag of this year's hottest titles, and plan periodic book club meetings to reflect and discuss.

Reading Minutes Challenge – Motivate students to practice their reading over summer vacation. Choose high-interest titles to send home with students. Add a reading log to each bag, asking students to track their reading in minutes or total books. Reward their efforts with points or prizes appropriate to their accomplishments.

What reading levels do you offer?

Mackin's database contains leveling information for the following reading programs:

- *Fountas & Pinnell Guided Reading
- *Lexile
- *Accelerated Reading
- *Reading Counts

We offer free labels for each of these reading programs. See our Reading Bag order form for more details.

Do you have world language/bilingual titles?

Yes! Mackin currently offers titles in over 100 languages, including Spanish, Russian, Chinese, French and Arabic. Our Spanish and Spanish/English language database is particularly expansive. If you need world language titles, our development specialists can compose a custom title list, specific to your school's needs.