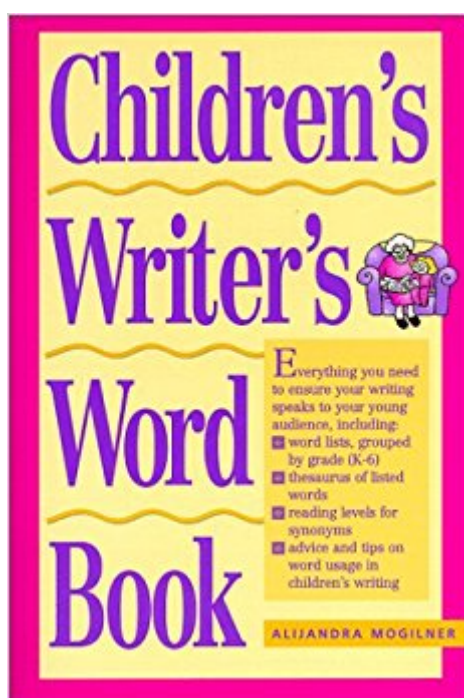


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# Children's Writer's Word Book (Children's Writer's Word Book)



## Synopsis

This title's unique design ensures that writers speak to their audience with a vocabulary and style they both understand and find appealing. A fast-reference guide meant to be used along with a dictionary, thesaurus and yellow pad of paper, it will help fulfill the dream of becoming a published children's writer. Highlights include: lists of specific words introduced at each of seven reading levels (K-6); a thesaurus of synonyms, annotated with reading levels; advice and tips particular to word usage for each reading level; guideline for sentence length and themes; idea generators for other stories.

## Book Information

Series: Children's Writer's Word Book

Paperback: 352 pages

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Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 9 x 6 x 1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 96 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #4,155,404 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 in Books > Reference >

Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Children's Literature #1785 in Books >

Reference > Words, Language & Grammar > Alphabet #2222 in Books > Textbooks > Reference > Writing Skills

## Customer Reviews

"Children's Writer's Word Book will help you keep your vocabulary on target". -- Writer's Library

Alijandra Mogilner has been writing-and publishing-stories for children since 1982. She teaches at the University of California in San Diego.

If you're writing for children, or your stories feature children, this book is a must-own reference. It lists the words children study and use, grade by grade. First, there's the alphabetical list. You'll use that frequently. As a writer, you'll check words to be sure you're not using a 5th grade word for an "easy reader" intended for 1st graders, and so on. The next section might be your favorite. It covers

kindergarten through sixth grade. Grade by grade, you'll learn what children are studying. You'll see writing samples from the kinds of books they read at that grade level. Then, you'll see a word list covering the words typically learned in that year of school. If you're writing a grade-specific book, especially if it's planned for curriculum use, these lists are pure gold. The bulk of the book is even more useful. It's a thesaurus, listed alphabetically. So, if you'd like to say "chivalry" (a 6th grade word) but you're writing for second graders, you'll find "goodness" (a kindergarten word), "fairness" (1st grade), and the 2nd grade words, "daring" and "manners." One of them is likely to fit your story. The final few pages of the book provide tips for writers. They include things like how old your protagonist should be, which genres are best (and how to write them), and a good list of taboos -- obvious and some that aren't usually mentioned -- to give your book the best opportunity to sell well. And, of course, if you're writing books for adults, but the stories include children as characters, you'll use this book to be sure your young characters sound right for their ages. If you're writing books for children, you simply must own a book like this. If you're writing books that include some children as characters, this is still a very useful book. I own a couple of books like this, and -- for my writing -- this is easily the best.

For those who haven't had the opportunity to browse Alijandra Mogilner's book *Children's Writer's Word Book*, I hope you will take time to do so. It is an excellent reference tool. I am taking a series of online writing courses through a local college, and this title is on the recommended reading list for the Writing for Children class. I was so favorably impressed with the copy I checked out at our local library, I ordered my own copy that same weekend. I can tell it will become a dog-eared favorite. It is a dictionary/thesaurus extraordinaire. Take the word "eat," for example. The book lets you know that a first-grade student would understand the synonyms bite, chew, dine and feast but that I'd need to wait until my readers hit fourth grade to use words such as consume, crunch and nibble. Another aspect of the book I found to be very useful is the introduction that appears at the beginning of each graded word list. These pages summarize what social changes readers are undergoing at each grade level as well as what vocabulary and other subjects they're learning in the classroom. It also covers what publishers are looking for as well as a short writing sample to clearly illustrate pertinent points. This is one of the best reference guides I ever have used.

I am so glad I found this book. It has made the word choice for my children's book easy. As well as tons of information about the development of children's reading habits from kindergarten to 6th grade, there is a detailed alphabetical list of words. This book is an invaluable companion for

anyone writing for children. I highly recommend it for all writers and educators.

I am writing a cute little book about my 14yo son when he was little bitty. This reference book has been helpful when I am looking for how to say something at a specific age level. It is small and handy. This book is not only good for writers, but parents and teachers who maybe looking to communicate better with any age group. This book offers words that are understandable by age groups for more effective communication.

Very informative book, especially for someone who doesn't have children and wants to write for them. I've just begun using it and already it looks like the old ad for the yellow pages, 'The one that gets used'! A wonderful guidebook. Thank you Alijandra!

The mystery for writers aiming their creative efforts at children is: What words are acceptable at what grade levels? Many writers don't have a clue when they begin writing for kids. Knowing the answer is one key to getting published and an important factor in sales to schools and libraries. "Children's Writer's Word Book" offers an easy way to find what words are appropriate for what grades, and provides alternative words for younger and older age groups. "Spurt," for example, is a 5th grade-level word. Its alternatives are flow (1st grade), jet (K), squirt (4th,) fountain (3rd), ejaculate (6th), shoot (3rd), and spout and surge (5th). Often you find an alternative word that works for the grade levels. Occasionally, you won't. The book is a useful aide to puzzled scribes trying to satisfying language rules imposed on them by state boards of education. It will do little to assist creativity, but it's a great help when you're looking for a 3rd-grade word to substitute for the 5th- or 6th- grade word you originally chose. My copy of "Children's Writer's Word Book" sits on a shelf above my computer, where I can reach it without standing. Patrick Young, author of "Old Abe, Eagle Hero: The Civil War's Most Famous Mascot"

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