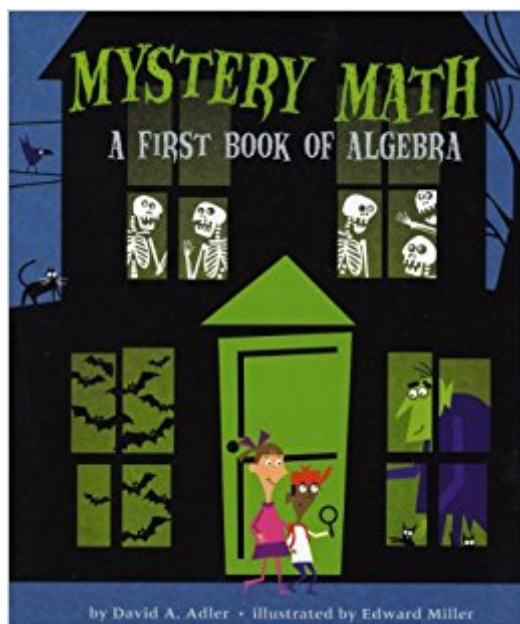


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# Mystery Math: A First Book Of Algebra



## Synopsis

In this accessible first book of algebra set in a creepy haunted house, readers will learn to find the unknown number of skeletons, ravens, and bats by using simple addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division to solve equations.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 600 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Holiday House; Reprint edition (June 1, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0823425487

ISBN-13: 978-0823425488

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.1 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 18 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #60,367 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in [Books > Children's Books](#)  
> [Education & Reference](#) > [Math](#) > [Algebra](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 1 - 5

## Customer Reviews

"Mystery Math presents the concepts with humor and clarity. [A] kid-friendly introduction to basic algebra."

David A. Adler is the celebrated author whose work has received the Sydney Taylor Book Award and Boston Globe-Horn Book Award Honor, Golden Kite Award Honor, and Orbis Pictus Award Honor Book citations. He lives in the New York City metropolitan area. Edward Miller is the author, illustrator, and designer of *The Monster Health Book*, a Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year, and *The Tooth Book*. He lives in New York City.

I love the story line. While I have not used it in my class yet, I already have designs for next year!

My daughter loves it! She is very proud of learning algebra with this fun book.

This book is great the kids to get started with their Algebra. Makes math fun. Enjoyed it very much so.

This book was a great tool in my guided math group. They loved the idea of a balance to depict equations!

Great to use to introduce equations! I used it with middle school students and they loved it.

Great

This provides a helpful way for parents to ready their early elementary kids for the math they will see in future grades.

David Glover has a very clever idea in the ongoing goal of making learning fun. True learning and retention involves bombarding the brain with multiple input, and then reinforcing those lessons learned to make the subject permanent. As for 'brain' input, this book involves nice eye candy pictures, and then reading to introduce and/or reinforce some basic concepts. Where it misses the mark is its reusability is almost zilch. Unfortunately, mathematics is often treated like a bag of tricks to be memorized subject. Kids are regularly taken through a year of memorizing bells and whistle tricks that have absolutely no cohesive theme (e.g., instead of teaching how multiplication is simply an extension of addition [ $4 \times 5$  is the same as adding 4 - 5's together] and is the reverse of division). The old mantra of 'just memorize' this or that is rampant throughout education up to and including graduate level course work. If you are a parent, I as a retired educator will pass on this advice: constantly reinforce daily practice of addition, subtraction, division and multiplication. Go to the grocery store and ask your kid "Oh 4 for \$5, how much will that be for each," "I need 4 of those 79 cent cans of soup, how much will that cost," etc. These are the building blocks of algebra and without a strong foundation in them, teachers are speaking greek when they try to teach algebra.

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