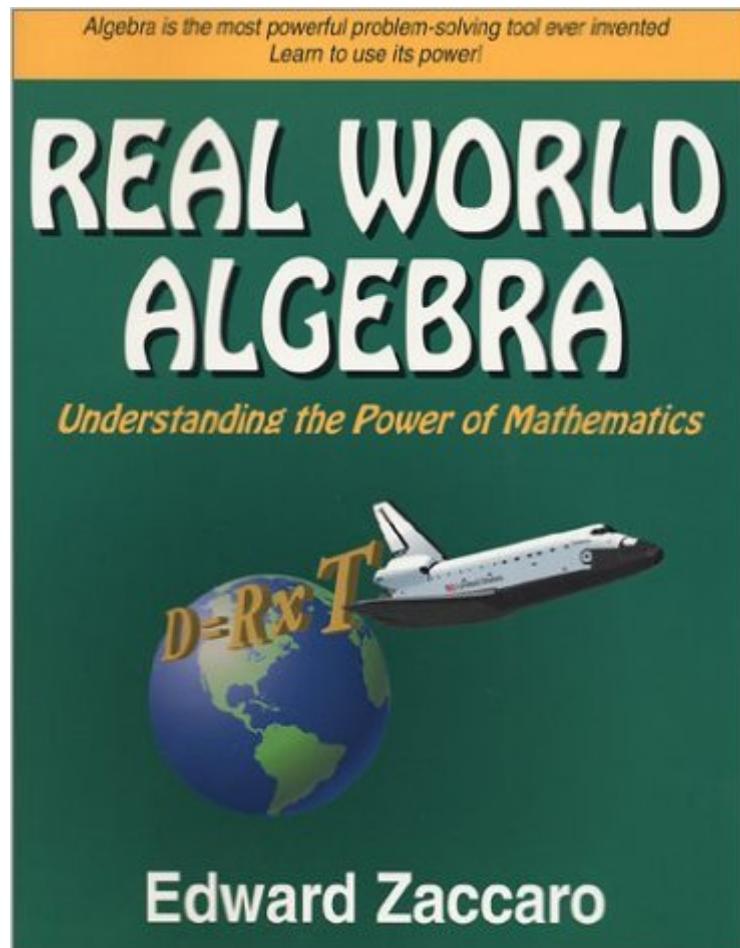


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# Real World Algebra



## **Synopsis**

Algebra is often taught abstractly with little or no emphasis on what algebra is or how it can be used to solve real problems. Just as English can be translated into other languages, word problems can be "translated" into the math language of algebra and easily solved. Real World Algebra explains this process in an easy to understand format using cartoons and drawings. This makes self-learning easy for both the student and any teacher who never did quite understand algebra. Includes chapters on algebra and money, algebra and geometry, algebra and physics, algebra and levers and many more. Designed for children in grades 4-9 with higher math ability and interest but could be used by older students and adults as well. Contains 22 chapters with instruction and problems at three levels of difficulty.

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (36 customer reviews)

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## **Customer Reviews**

I would recommend this book to anyone having difficulty with algebra. My son had always done well in math, but had trouble understanding his Algebra I class and was failing the tests. I heard Mr. Zaccaro speak at a conference and bought this book. I used the book to tutor my son and his test grades went from 60s to 90s. He finished the year with a solid B average and is now one of the top students in Algebra II and easily maintains an A average. He is even able to help other students, because Mr. Zaccaro's book gave him such a good foundation in the subject. As a teacher, I think this book succeeds because it is not only informative, but it presents the lessons in an interesting, kid-friendly way. I think it's an excellent tool for remediation; however, I also think it would be great

for any child interested in learning algebra just for fun, before it is taught in school.

I am a gifted facilitator but that doesn't mean I am an expert in every subject area! This book helped me understand the logic of Algebra for the first time in my life! It helped me understand Algebra in a way that I could explain to my students and that made sense! My students enjoyed the little stories that helped them remember the rules of Algebra! This book saved me! It was a breakthrough for me and I give it the highest rating. Anyone who is over their head in trying to teach Algebra will find it a lifesaver.

Let's just say that I've been out of school for a while now and Algebra has never been my strong suit. However, I use math all the time in my job so I thought I'd try to learn easier ways of doing things. I have 4 different Algebra books and none comes close to teaching the rules of Algebra better. I normally just get confused but after I got over the cartoonish layout of the book, I realized how much I was actually retaining. .I normally throw books out the window once I get to negatives and fractions but this book really does make real world comparisons and common sense to make complicated facts easy to understand.

As math curriculum coordinator (K-6) and teacher of gifted math (3rd - 6th), I have a large library of resources, but THIS is the one I use every year. I do not use the whole book, but certain chapters are the Go-To for specific concepts: Ch 1 - how to translate word problems to the language of algebra Ch 2 - the basic procedures in problem-solving Also the chapter on Order of Operations is great - told as a story. I use Real World Algebra starting with 4th graders; for regular ed. (non-gifted), it certainly begins to be appropriate by 5th/6th. It will be invaluable for the ramped-up Common Core State Standards. As 4th graders will need to multiply and divide fractions now, approaching those skills algebraically with develop depth of understanding as well as rote algorithms. The writing style and format are very student friendly. There are three levels of practice questions for each skill; I like that there are do-able sets along with real stretches for the more confident students. NOTE: If you use the Hands-On Equations system, this book will develop the conceptual understanding that is somewhat neglected in that series.

This summer we had a problem. My daughter had a 50 page math packet to complete. She had forgotten a great deal of what she needed to know to complete her assignment so she turned to this book. "It was amazing and it helped me to solve many of the problems. It explains things very well

and the style is very easy to learn from. If my teacher taught this way, I would have aced every math test last year".

Zaccaro's books have been very helpful, and written in an easy to read, lucid format...my 11 year old son can fully relate to this book, and understands Algebraic concepts more easily as a result of using this book. It is a good supplement to concepts that are being taught in school, and offers a variety of challenging word problems that can help raise the bar...the solution key to the problems is also excellent and very thorough.

My son began using this material in the gifted program at his school last year in 4th grade. He was always "bored" with math. I bought the book for him to do at home, and he is motivated to spend time learning on his own without coaxing. Very understandable and easy to use. He is able to apply the concepts in other learning situations.

An excellent review for students who have completely mastered algebra and algebraic concept. Most real-world activities, as far as I have read through it, are in the form of worded-problems. A bit too challenging for my student who is learning the basics of algebra right now. I wish the problems were graduated to accommodate those just learning algebra. An excellent book nonetheless, just not suiting my particular purpose at this time.

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