

Abdo eBoost FAQs – eBooks with a BOOST!

What is eBoost?

Abdo Digital's latest line, called eBoost, is a multimedia resource that combines an eBook with related media links — all on one easy-to-access page. Designed to provide students, patrons, and teachers with a diverse range of media for research and personal interest learning, eBoost offers a convenient way for librarians to provide up-to-date information on a range of subjects and an easy way for students to conduct safe web research on the topic of their choice.

What are eBoost's features for students and patrons?

For student and patron use, each eBoost title features an eBook, related Web links, an embedded video, and RSS and/or Twitter feeds. The eBoost product features our easy-to-navigate "flip book" eBook titles published by ABDO, with great text features and navigation options including thumbnail browsing, Table of Contents links, keyword searching across the eBook, bookmarking, and the easy page-flipping functionality of reading an eBook.

What are eBoost's features for teachers?

The Teacher Resources field, which displays at the top of each eBoost page, allows teachers and administrators to add related links and notes, so each eBoost title can be customized and saved for future lesson plans. This customization allows several teachers of the same subject to share feedback and ideas across classrooms, or teachers can build and adapt their lessons over time. Our technology also allows different teachers to each offer separate notes for their classrooms within the same eBoost title.

How is content selected for eBoost?

Our editors conduct extensive research to find credible and appropriate videos, images, RSS feeds, Twitter feeds, and web links to accompany our flip books in eBoost. We select content that is useful, accessible, educational, age-appropriate, and at times, entertaining. We include RSS feeds and Twitter feeds from reputable organizations that have a "real-world" presence. We also avoid linking to websites that display excessive advertising.

How is the eBoost content monitored?

All RSS feeds and Twitter feeds are reviewed by staff on a daily basis to check for inappropriate postings. All links are reviewed by senior editors before they are posted to ensure the content is appropriate and credible. However, due to the dynamic nature of the Internet, we cannot guarantee that content on external sites will stay constant or that the links will remain active. We routinely check these links, but we do not monitor entire sites. If users continue to navigate through sites after clicking away from the eBoost product, they may encounter content that is unsuitable for children. If you have questions or concerns about specific links, please contact us at customerservice@abdodigital.com.

How often is eBoost content updated?

The frequency of updates on eBoost products varies by each topic and its role in daily news. RSS feeds and Twitter feeds should have fresh content at least on a weekly basis, though most are updated daily or even more frequently. Web links and videos are updated less often, as news events warrant. If you encounter content you suspect is not up to date, please contact us at customerservice@abdodigital.com.

Do eBoost titles have Accelerated Reader quizzes?

All ABDO books and eBooks have Accelerated Reader quizzes available.

Are there annual fees for eBoost?

eBoost titles are sold as five-year subscriptions. There are no annual hosting or other technology fees.

Can eBoost be accessed from home and school?

Yes. You will select a username and password to distribute to students, who will be able to log in anywhere as long as they have an Internet connected. We also provide options to bypass the username and password.

How many students or patrons can view an eBoost title at once?

Abdo eBoost titles are sold as a site license with simultaneous access for multiple users. This means any number of students who go to school in your building, or any number of patrons of your library branch, may view the eBook at any time.

Do eBoost titles work on an iPad or other tablet?

Yes. All eBoost titles work on the iPad, the Nook Tablet, the Kindle Fire, and other Android-based tablets. However, some of the links within the eBoost products may direct users to a site with Flash content, which is not supported by the iPad.

Can I use eBoost products on the standard Nooks, Kindles, or other dedicated e-readers?

eBoost titles only work on devices that support video and web browsing.

Do Abdo hosted eBooks work on smart phones?

eBoost titles only work on smart phones that support video and web browsing, including the iPhone.

What do I need to know about Abdo Digital's hosting service?

When you purchase an eBoost title, you are buying access to Abdo Digital's secure web hosting. Users will visit my.abdodigital.com and log in with a username and password to view their Abdo Digital Library. Products are categorized by subject, grade level, and format.

In addition to our user-friendly interface, you can receive MARC records with the links to our digital products embedded in the records for easy access from your OPAC. MARC records are FREE when you order \$350 or more from ABDO.

Your Abdo Digital Library is web-based and therefore, accessible by anyone who has the login credentials and an Internet connected.

How can students or patrons access Abdo Digital products in my school or collection?

There are several ways to share your eBoost titles with students and patrons:

- As a web-based product, the link to the Digital Library can be accessed directly. <my.abdodigital.com>
- You can add an Abdo Digital icon to your school's library page or OPAC.
- You can add ABDO MARC records with embedded eBook links in to your OPAC. (For this option, be sure to set up IP or referring URL authentication first.)

Is there a way for students to avoid the login screen?

Yes, Abdo Digital offers several options for accessing hosted products, depending on your school or library's specific needs:

- Unique username and password: Every Abdo Digital account will include a unique student username and password, as well as an administrator username and password. Administrators have access to change these passwords and set up additional teacher and student accounts.
- IP Authentication: If we add your school's IP address to your account, students who access your Abdo Digital Library from the school building will automatically be logged in and will not have to enter a username and password. This is a great option for schools that have eBook links available online, but not on a password-protected site. However, this is not an option for schools that share an IP address district-wide.
- Referring URL Authentication: If your school has a secure, web-based, password-protected Web site or OPAC, we can put the URL of your site on our list of approved URLs. That way, any time a student clicks on an ABDO link from your Web site — regardless of whether they are at school or at home — they will automatically be logged in.

What privileges does an Administrator have?

Every Abdo Digital account includes an administrator login. When they log in to my.abdodigital.com, administrators see a “My Account” link in the upper right-hand corner of the page. By clicking on this link, administrators can update their contact information, run usage/circulation reports, add additional teacher and student usernames and passwords, and add IP ranges or referring URLs for authentication. They can also determine whether the Teacher Resources box on their eBoost products is always open or closed by default.

Can I track circulation on my Abdo Digital titles?

Yes, administrators can access usage reports directly. Simply log in with your administrator account, click on “My Account” in the upper right hand corner, and under Activity Report, enter a date range. Then click “Run Report.” A CSV file will be generated that will include the users who accessed your account in the time period you entered, as well as the number of times each specific title was accessed. Geography information is also included, based on the users’ IP addresses.

To download the file to your computer, right click on the link below and select either "Download Linked File As...", "Save Link As...", or "Save Target As..." (depending on your browser). The file may be opened in any spreadsheet software (Microsoft Excel, Numbers, Open Office, etc.).

What are the system requirements for eBoost?

Abdo's eBoost products use Adobe® Flash® Player, and can be used on a Mac or PC platform. Required software for this product while using a computer is [Flash Player 10.3 or higher](#). A minimum of 512 MB of RAM is recommended.

The following browsers are supported: Microsoft Internet Explorer 7.x, Firefox 17, Safari 5.x, and Chrome 5.x or later.

Other supported devices for eBoost are the iPad, iPhone, iPod Touch, Kindle Fire, and other Android-based devices.