Guide for Audio-Enabled Books: Wonderbooks & Vox Books
Revised September 5, 2023

A relatively new item from publishers such as Playaway that libraries have begun to add to their collections, audio-enabled books pose a few new challenges when cataloging. Within this guide, we will discuss:

- what exactly an audio-enabled book is
- explore audio-enabled book specific match points
- touch upon parameter considerations
- what to do if you have questions
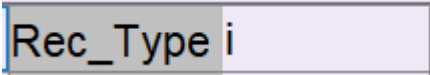
WHAT IS AN AUDIO-ENABLED BOOK?
An audio-enabled book, such as a Wonderbook or Vox Book, is an item where the publisher has taken a previously published book and attached a media player to the cover so that users can listen to the audio recording of a story, while simultaneously reading the physical copy. Essentially, a Wonderbook or Vox Book combines what many libraries already circulate (the book + the audiobook) in one nifty package.

MATCH POINTS
Looking at the record of an audio-enabled book and using match points is important to avoid attaching to a Wonderbook/Vox record by mistake. These records can be tricky in that they will list both the Wonderbook/Vox specific ISBN *and* the ISBN for the original print item on the record.

The original print's ISBN *most likely* will have a "|z" to mark the ISBN as "invalid" because technically it is not the ISBN for the item described by the Wonderbook/Vox record, but it is a related ISBN and useful for searching.

While a helpful addition to the record, this "invalid" ISBN ultimately means that looking at match points is crucial. Included below are a few match points specific to Wonderbooks or Vox Books that you should become familiar with when cataloging these items.

Field	Description		Example
Type	Here you will find the type of record. Prefer a record that uses "i" for non-musical sound recording. If there is only a record that uses "a" for book, go ahead and use that record. The format icon used for RSAcat search results is based on item type code, not the record type.		In WorkFlows: Rec_Type i In OCLC Connexion: Type i
020	Here you will find ISBNs for both the Wonderbook or Vox item, as well as the original print book. A "|z" to mark the print item as "invalid" might be used.	020 020 020 020	9781549127724 $q (Wonderbook) $z 9780316392860 $q (Hardback) 9781936348091 $q (VOX book) $z 9780062574206 $q (print)
250	Here you will find edition statements. If the record has been created or edited by RSA, the brand of the audio-enabled book will be listed in brackets for an implied edition statement. If the record has been created by the publisher, this implied edition statement might not be on the record. It is okay to use a record without this implied edition statement.	250 250	[VOX edition]. [Wonderbook edition].
264	Here you will find the publication information. The publisher will not be who published the original print book,	264 264	_1 Solon, Ohio : $b Findaway World, LLC, $c [2019] _1 [Fairfax, Virginia] : $b [Library Ideas, LLC], $c 2020.

	but whoever made the audio-enabled book, such as Playaway (Wonderbook) or Library Ideas (Vox).		
300	Here you will find information about the item's physical description. You will find $a usually entered in one of two ways. You might see "1 audio-enabled book" written before the pagination is listed in parenthesis, OR you might see "1 Wonderbook" instead for records created by Playaway. It is okay to use a record that lists the $a either way, as long as the brand in $a matches the brand you have in hand.	300 300 300	1 audio-enabled book (1 volume (unpaged)) : $b color illustrations ; $c 29 cm 1 audio-enabled book (32 pages) : $b color illustrations ; $c 22 x 30 cm 1 Wonderbook (1 volume (unpaged)) : $b color illustrations ; $c 28 cm
33X	Here you will find RDA descriptions for the item's content, media, and carrier types. Note, you should see descriptions that reflect both the physical and audio nature of the item.	336 336 336 337 337 338 338	spoken word $b spw $2 rdacontent still image $b sti $2 rdacontent text $b txt $2 rdacontent audio $b s $2 rdamedia unmediated $b n $2 rdamedia other $b sz $ rdacarrier volume $b nc $2 rdacarrier
34X	Here is listed the sound and digital file characteristics of the item. Again, this field is here to reflect the MP3 qualities of the item.	344 344 347 347	digital $2 rdatr $b non-volatile flash memory audio file $2 rdaft $b MP3
500	You might see a note about when the print book was originally published.	500	Print book published: New York: The Viking Press, 1948.
500	You might see a note about the original audio content used for the item.	500	Audiobook originally released by Penguin Random House.

500	You might see a note to indicate where the publication date and narrator name were found.	500	Publication date and narrator name taken from publisher's website.
500	Wonderbook specific 500 notes. Here are three 500 notes that are included on a Wonderbook specific record:	500	Issued as a Wonderbook, a pre-loaded audiobook player permanently attached to a hardcover book.
		500	Powered by a rechargeable battery ; USB charger required for recharging.
		500	Audiobook player has 2 modes. Read-Along mode narrates the story. Learning mode asks questions related to the story.
500	Vox specific 500 notes. Here are three 500 notes that are included on a Vox specific record:	500	This audio-enabled VOX Book has an audio reader with complete narration permanently attached inside the front cover. This unique new book format delivers a complete audio narration directly from the printed book. Simply open the book, push the PLAY button and listen from beginning to end.
		500	Audio playback device includes headphone jack, external speaker, and audio controls.
		500	"The permanently attached VOX Reader transforms an ordinary print book into an all-in-one read-along. There's no need for computers, tablets or CDs. Children simply push a button to listen and read." -- Publisher's website.
511	Here you will find narrator information for the item.	511	0_ Read by Walter Miles.

655 _7	Here you will find genre terms for the item. Note, you most likely will see genre terms that also reflect both the item's print and audio nature.	655	_7	Children's audiobooks. $2 lcgft
		655	_7	Audiobooks. $2 lcgft
		655	_7	Readers (Publications). $2 lcgft
		655	_7	Picture books. $2 lcgft

These are the most important match points specific to audio-enabled books you should be using when cataloging such an item. Please also look at the 040 field $b to ensure that you are selecting an English language record.

PARAMETER CONSIDERATIONS
New item formats often mean new parameters to consider. If you need any codes added to your WorkFlows cataloging dropdown menus, or circulation and hold rules adjusted, please contact the Help Desk at either help@rsanfp.org or 866-940-4083.

- Required: Use AUDIOBOOK as the Item Type, which uses the RSAcat description "All in One Audiobook (Read and Listen)." Remember to contact James via the RSA Help Desk to set up circulation and hold rules. Checklists to help you set up rules are posted here.
- Optional: BOOK-TALK home location
- Required: AUDIOBOOK item cat 3
- Optional: BOOK-TALK item cat 4
- Optional: BKTALK-VOX or BKTALK-WON item cat 5

QUESTIONS?
If you have any questions about audio-enabled books, please contact the Help Desk at either help@rsanfp.org or 866-940-4083. The RSA Cataloging Department will be happy to assist you!