

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS READERS OWLS NATIONAL GE Study Guide

national geographic kids readers owls national ge is a captivating topic that sparks curiosity among young explorers and nature enthusiasts alike. Owls are one of the most fascinating creatures in the animal kingdom, and National Geographic Kids provides an excellent way for children to learn about these incredible birds through engaging articles, videos, and fun facts. Whether you're a young reader interested in discovering how owls live, what they eat, or how they hunt at night, National Geographic Kids makes learning about owls both fun and educational. In this article, we'll explore the amazing world of owls, their unique characteristics, different species, and why they are so important to our ecosystems.

What Are Owls?

Owls are birds known for their distinctive appearance and remarkable hunting skills. They belong to the order Strigiformes and are found all over the world, from dense forests to open grasslands. Owls are known for their silent flight, large eyes, and keen sense of hearing, which make them exceptional nocturnal predators.

Key Features of Owls

Owls have several unique features that set them apart from other birds:

- **Large, Forward-Facing Eyes:** Owls have binocular vision, giving them excellent depth perception to spot prey in low light.
- **Silent Flight:** Their special wing feathers allow for near-soundless flight, helping them sneak up on prey.
- **Facial Disc:** Their round face with a disc-shaped arrangement of feathers helps funnel sound to their ears.
- **Sharp Talons and Beak:** These allow them to catch and tear apart their prey efficiently.

Different Types of Owls

There are over 200 species of owls, each adapted to different environments and hunting styles. Some of the most well-known species include the Barn Owl, Snowy Owl, and Great Horned Owl.

Popular Owl Species

- **Barn Owl:** Recognized for its heart-shaped face and white underparts, this owl is found worldwide and prefers open habitats like farmland and grasslands.
- **Snowy Owl:** Known for its white feathers and striking yellow eyes, Snowy Owls live in Arctic regions and are among the largest owl species.
- **Great Horned Owl:** With prominent feather tufts resembling horns, this powerful predator can hunt a wide variety of prey and is common in North and South America.
- **Barred Owl:** Recognized by its brown and white striped pattern, it prefers forests and is known for its distinctive hooting call.
- **Elf Owl:** One of the smallest owls, measuring about 5 inches tall, it lives in desert and forest regions of the southwestern U.S. and Mexico.

How Do Owls Hunt?

Owls are nocturnal hunters, meaning they are most active at night. Their hunting methods are highly specialized to catch prey in the dark.

Hunting Techniques and Adaptations

Owls use a combination of keen eyesight and acute hearing:

- **Silent Flight:** Their wing feathers reduce noise, allowing them to fly quietly and surprise prey.
- **Exceptional Hearing:** Large, asymmetrical ears help them pinpoint prey even in complete darkness.
- **Sharp Talons:** They use their powerful claws to grab and kill prey quickly.
- **Stealth and Patience:** Owls often perch silently, waiting patiently for prey to come within striking distance.

Prey items include small mammals like mice and voles, insects, and even other birds. Owls swallow their prey whole and later regurgitate indigestible parts like bones and fur in the form of pellets.

Why Are Owls Important?

Owls play a vital role in maintaining healthy ecosystems by controlling populations of rodents and insects. Their presence indicates a balanced environment, and they are considered indicator species?meaning their health reflects the health of their habitat.

Ecological Benefits of Owls

- **Pest Control:** Owls help keep rodent populations in check, reducing crop damage and the

spread of diseases.

- **Food Chain Support:** As predators, owls are an essential part of food webs, supporting biodiversity.
- **Environmental Indicators:** Healthy owl populations suggest a clean, thriving environment.

How Do National Geographic Kids Help Kids Learn About Owls?

National Geographic Kids offers a variety of resources designed to educate and inspire young readers about owls and nature.

Educational Content and Activities

- **Articles and Videos:** Fun, age-appropriate materials that explain owl behavior, habitats, and conservation efforts.
- **Interactive Quizzes:** Test knowledge about owl species and facts to reinforce learning.
- **Activities and Crafts:** Create owl masks, make owl pellets, or build birdhouses to connect with nature practically.
- **Wildlife Conservation Stories:** Learn about efforts to protect owl species and their habitats around the world.

How Kids Can Help Protect Owls

Young explorers can make a difference in owl conservation by taking simple actions:

Ways to Help

- **Support Bird Conservation Programs:** Participate in local owl conservation initiatives or donate to wildlife organizations.
- **Build Owl Habitats:** Create nest boxes or leave natural tree cavities undisturbed in your yard.
- **Avoid Pesticides:** Reduce the use of chemicals that can harm owl prey species or poison the owls themselves.
- **Learn and Share:** Educate friends and family about owls and why they matter.

Fun Facts About Owls

To inspire curiosity, here are some amazing owl facts:

- Owls can rotate their heads up to 270 degrees, allowing them to look in different directions

without moving their bodies.

- Some owls can see in almost complete darkness thanks to their large eyes and excellent night vision.
- Owls have facial discs that help funnel sound directly to their ears, making them expert hunters at night.
- The largest owl species, the Blakiston's fish owl, can have a wingspan of up to 6 feet!
- Many owl species are monogamous, forming lifelong pair bonds.

Conclusion

Owls are truly remarkable creatures that captivate the imagination of children and adults alike. Through resources like National Geographic Kids, young readers can delve into the incredible world of owls, discovering their unique adaptations, diverse species, and vital role in nature. By learning about owls, kids can develop a greater appreciation for wildlife and become motivated to protect these magnificent birds and their habitats. Whether through observing owls in the wild, participating in conservation efforts, or simply sharing interesting facts, everyone can contribute to ensuring that owls continue to soar across our skies for generations to come.

National Geographic Kids Readers Owls National Geographic offers young explorers a captivating window into the fascinating world of owls. These mysterious nocturnal birds have captured human imagination for centuries, and through engaging visuals and facts, young readers can discover what makes owls so special. Whether you're curious about their unique adaptations, their role in ecosystems, or their incredible hunting skills, this guide will walk you through everything you need to know about owls, as featured in National Geographic Kids resources.

Introduction to Owls: Nature's Nocturnal Birds

Owls are a diverse group of birds known for their distinctive appearance, silent flight, and incredible hunting abilities. Featured prominently in National Geographic Kids materials, owls serve as a perfect example of nature's ingenuity. Their mysterious, often majestic presence makes them a favorite among young naturalists.

Owls belong to the order Strigiformes, which includes over 200 species worldwide. They can be found on every continent except Antarctica, thriving in a variety of environments—from dense forests and deserts to grasslands and urban areas. This adaptability is part of what makes owls so intriguing and vital to ecosystems around the globe.

The Anatomy of an Owl: What Makes Them Unique?

Key Features of Owls

Owls have several physical traits that set them apart from other birds:

- Large, forward-facing eyes: These give owls excellent binocular vision, crucial for hunting in low-light conditions.
- Facial disc: A circular arrangement of feathers around their face that helps funnel sound to their ears.
- Silent flight feathers: Special serrated edges on their wings allow for near-silent movement through the air.
- Sharp talons and beak: Designed for catching and tearing apart prey.
- Camouflaged plumage: Many owls have feathers that blend into their surroundings, providing stealth.

How Owl Anatomy Supports Their Lifestyle

Owls are nocturnal hunters, and their anatomy is perfectly suited for this:

- Their large eyes gather more light, giving them excellent night vision.
- The facial disc amplifies sound, making it easier to locate prey in darkness.
- Silent wings help them sneak up on prey without being heard.
- Their talons are powerful and curved, perfect for gripping prey tightly.

Types of Owls: A Closer Look at Different Species

National Geographic Kids emphasizes the diversity of owl species, each adapted to different environments and lifestyles. Here are some notable examples:

Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*)

- Recognizable by its heart-shaped face.
- Found worldwide, often in farmland and open country.
- Feeds mainly on rodents.

Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*)

- Known for its prominent ear tufts.
- One of the most powerful owls in the Americas.
- Hunts a variety of prey, including mammals and other birds.

Snowy Owl (*Bubo scandiacus*)

- Famous for its striking white feathers.
- Lives in Arctic tundra.
- Feeds mainly on lemmings and other small rodents.

Eastern Screech Owl (*Megascops asio*)

- Small size with ear-like tufts.
- Common in forests and suburban areas across North America.
- Nocturnal but sometimes active during twilight.

Owl Behavior and Hunting Techniques

Nocturnal and Crepuscular Activities

Most owls are nocturnal, meaning they hunt at night, but some are crepuscular?active during dawn and dusk. This behavior helps them avoid competition and predators.

How Owls Hunt

Owls are skilled predators, relying on their keen senses and silent flight:

- Listening first: Many owls listen for prey movements underground or in dense foliage.
- Spotting prey: Their excellent night vision helps them see in low light.
- Silent approach: Using their silent wings, they swoop down to catch prey with their sharp talons.
- Tearing prey: Their beaks are designed to tear flesh efficiently.

Prey and Diet

Owls are carnivores, and their diet includes:

- Small mammals (mice, rats, squirrels)
- Birds
- Insects
- Fish (for some species)

Their hunting success depends on their physical adaptations and keen senses.

Owls and Their Role in Ecosystems

Owls are important predators that help control populations of rodents and insects, maintaining balance in their habitats. They are also indicators of environmental health; a healthy owl population often signals a thriving ecosystem.

Owls as Indicators of Environmental Health

Because owls are sensitive to changes in their environment, scientists often monitor their populations to assess ecosystem stability. Declines in owl numbers can indicate issues like habitat destruction, pollution, or loss of prey.

Conservation and Challenges Facing Owls

Despite their adaptability, many owl species face threats:

- Habitat loss: Deforestation and urban development reduce nesting sites.
- Pesticides: Chemical toxins can poison owls directly or reduce their prey populations.
- Climate change: Altered habitats and prey availability impact their survival.
- Illegal hunting and trapping: In some areas, owls are targeted for their feathers or as part of the pet trade.

How Can We Help Protect Owls?

National Geographic Kids encourages young conservationists to:

- Respect wildlife and observe owls at a distance.
- Support conservation organizations.
- Educate others about the importance of owls.
- Preserve natural habitats by planting native trees and avoiding harmful chemicals.

Fun Facts About Owls

- Owls can rotate their heads up to 270 degrees without injury.
- Not all owls hoot; some make whistles, screeches, or screams.
- Owls' feathers are specially adapted for silent flight, which is rare among birds.

- The smallest owl is the Elf Owl, measuring about 5 inches tall.
- The Tawny Owl is known for its distinctive "twit-twoo" call.

Conclusion: Discovering the Magic of Owls with National Geographic Kids

Owls are incredible creatures that embody mystery, adaptability, and the delicate balance of nature. By exploring their anatomy, behavior, and role in ecosystems, young readers can foster a deeper appreciation for wildlife and the importance of conservation efforts. National Geographic Kids makes learning about owls engaging and fun, inspiring the next generation of environmental stewards.

Whether you're spotting an owl in your backyard or reading about them in a book, remember that these majestic birds are vital to our planet's health. Keep exploring, keep curious, and maybe one day, you'll have your own owl adventure!

Ready to learn more? Check out your local zoo, nature reserves, or National Geographic Kids resources to see owls in action and help protect these amazing birds!

Question What are some interesting facts about owls that kids can learn from National Geographic Kids? Kids can learn that owls have excellent night vision, silent flight to catch prey, and can rotate their heads up to 270 degrees. They also have special feathers that help them fly quietly and are found in many different habitats around the world. Why are owls important to the environment according to National Geographic Kids? Owls help control rodent populations, which keeps ecosystems balanced. They are also indicators of healthy environments, showing that the habitat is in good condition. What are some different types of owls featured in National Geographic Kids articles? National Geographic Kids highlights various owls like the Barn Owl, Snowy Owl, Great Horned Owl, and Eurasian Eagle-Owl, each with unique features and adaptations. How do owls hunt and what makes their hunting skills special? Owls hunt mainly at night using their excellent hearing and sharp talons. Their silent flight allows them to sneak up on prey without being heard, making them effective nocturnal hunters. What can kids do to learn more about owls and help protect them based on National Geographic Kids resources? Kids can read books and articles, watch videos, and participate in local conservation programs. They can also create owl-friendly habitats in their yards by providing nesting boxes and avoiding pesticides.

Related keywords: owls, wildlife, animals, nature, birdwatching, education, conservation, National Geographic Kids, wildlife photography, bird species

raz kids free download

Raz Kids Free Download: Your Ultimate Guide to Accessing and Using Raz Kids Legally and Effectively

In the realm of digital learning tools, Raz Kids Free Download often emerges as a sought-after phrase among parents, teachers, and students eager to access engaging reading resources without high costs. While Raz Kids offers a comprehensive subscription service designed to improve literacy skills through interactive books and quizzes, many users look for ways to access the platform's content for free. This article provides an in-depth exploration of what Raz Kids is, the legality and risks associated with free downloads, legitimate alternatives, and tips to maximize your experience with Raz Kids without unauthorized downloads.

Understanding Raz Kids and Its Educational Value

What is Raz Kids?

Raz Kids is an online educational platform developed by Learning A-Z that provides students with access to a vast library of leveled books. The platform aims to improve reading skills through interactive features, including audio support, quizzes, and progress tracking. Its user-friendly interface makes it suitable for students from early elementary through middle school.

Benefits of Raz Kids for Students and Educators

- Personalized learning paths based on student reading levels
- Engaging multimedia content to enhance comprehension
- Progress monitoring for teachers to assess student growth
- Accessible anytime, anywhere with internet connection
- Supports diverse literacy goals and curricula standards

Is a Free Download of Raz Kids Possible?

Legitimate Access to Raz Kids Content

Raz Kids operates primarily as a subscription-based digital service. Users can access its content through its online platform or via authorized mobile apps available on Apple App Store and Google Play. Typically, the platform does not offer free downloadable versions of its entire content library outside of the subscription model.

The Myth of Free Downloads

Many websites and online forums claim to offer free downloads of Raz Kids for offline use. However,

these are often:

- Unauthorized copies that violate intellectual property rights
- Potential sources of malware or viruses
- Unreliable in terms of content quality and completeness

Attempting to download Raz Kids content illegally can lead to serious legal consequences and compromise your device's security.

Legal and Safe Ways to Access Raz Kids Content

Subscription Options

The most legitimate way to access Raz Kids is through an official subscription. Schools often provide access to students via their district accounts, and parents can subscribe individually. The platform offers different plans, including:

- Monthly subscriptions for individual users
- School-wide licenses for classrooms or entire districts

Free Trials and Demonstrations

Raz Kids frequently offers free trial periods for new users, allowing access to its content for a limited time. These trials are an excellent way to explore the platform's features without any upfront cost.

Access Through Educational Institutions

Many schools subscribe to Raz Kids on behalf of their students. If your child's school has a subscription, you can:

- Access the platform via your child's login credentials
- Use school-provided devices or home computers to log in securely

Check with your child's teacher or school administrator for access details.

Alternatives to Raz Kids for Free Reading Resources

If you're seeking free, legal ways to support reading development, consider these options:

Open Educational Resources (OER)

Numerous websites offer free leveled reading materials, including:

- [Reading Rockets](#)
- [Britannica for Kids](#)
- [Storyberries](#)

Public Domain and Free E-books

Platforms that provide access to public domain books include:

- [Project Gutenberg](#)
- [Open Library](#)
- [StoryNory](#)

Free Apps and Digital Libraries

Many educational apps and websites offer free leveled readers suitable for various age groups:

- Epic! (with free trial options)
- Starfall.com
- Oxford Owl

Maximizing Your Learning Experience with Raz Kids

How to Use Raz Kids Effectively

Even without downloading content illegally, you can maximize your experience through:

- Using the platform regularly to build reading fluency
- Encouraging students to listen to the audio and follow along
- Utilizing quizzes and comprehension questions to reinforce learning
- Tracking progress to identify areas needing improvement

Tips for Parents and Educators

- Integrate Raz Kids into daily reading routines
- Combine Raz Kids activities with traditional books and classroom activities
- Use available resources and guides to support differentiated instruction
- Stay informed about new features, discounts, and trial offers from Learning A-Z

Understanding the Risks of Illegal Downloading

Legal and Ethical Considerations

Downloading copyrighted content like Raz Kids materials without permission infringes on intellectual property rights. It can lead to:

- Legal action against infringers
- Loss of access to the platform for your account
- Financial penalties

Security Risks

Unauthorized download websites may harbor malware, spyware, or viruses that can compromise your device and personal data. Always prioritize safety and legality.

Conclusion: The Best Approach to Accessing Raz Kids Content

While the desire for a Raz Kids free download is understandable, it's crucial to approach this platform through legal and ethical channels. Subscribing, taking advantage of free trials, and accessing content through authorized institutions ensures you support the developers and educators who create valuable literacy resources. Additionally, exploring alternative free resources can supplement your child's reading development effectively.

Remember, investing in legitimate access not only safeguards your device and personal information but also guarantees access to high-quality, up-to-date educational content that can significantly benefit learners. Always opt for legal avenues to enjoy the full benefits of Raz Kids and other educational tools, fostering a safe and enriching learning environment for children everywhere.

Raz Kids Free Download: An In-Depth Review of Accessing the Popular Reading Program

In the world of digital literacy and early childhood education, Raz Kids Free Download has become a topic of interest for many parents, teachers, and caregivers eager to provide children with engaging reading resources without the burden of subscription costs. This platform, renowned for its comprehensive collection of leveled books and interactive features, offers a compelling package for

developing young readers. While the official Raz Kids service is a subscription-based platform, many users seek ways to access its content freely through various means. In this article, we explore the possibilities, benefits, and drawbacks of downloading Raz Kids content for free, while also providing a thorough overview of what the platform offers.

Understanding Raz Kids and Its Educational Value

Raz Kids is an educational platform designed by Learning A-Z that provides thousands of leveled books, quizzes, and interactive activities aimed at improving students' reading skills. The platform is widely used in classrooms and homeschooling environments to foster a love of reading while tracking progress.

Features of Raz Kids:

- Extensive library of leveled books across various genres
- Audio support for each book to aid pronunciation and comprehension
- Quizzes and assessments to monitor progress
- Interactive activities and printable resources
- Progress tracking for teachers and parents

Educational Benefits:

- Personalized learning through leveled reading
- Development of phonemic awareness and comprehension
- Engagement through interactive features
- Easy access for teachers and parents to monitor progress

Is There a Legitimate Free Download of Raz Kids?

Official Access:

Raz Kids operates primarily on a subscription model, with paid plans offering full access to its extensive features. The company does not offer a free download of its entire platform or its proprietary content in a downloadable format outside of its app or website.

Illegal or Unauthorized Downloads:

Many websites and online forums claim to offer free downloads of Raz Kids content or the entire platform. However, these are often illegal, unsafe, and violate copyright laws. Downloading content

through unauthorized sources can expose users to malware, viruses, or scams, and it undermines the developers' rights.

Legal Alternatives to Free Downloading:

- Free Trial: Raz Kids occasionally offers a free trial period, allowing users to explore the platform without immediate payment.
- School or Library Access: Some educational institutions or libraries have subscriptions or licenses that allow students to access Raz Kids content freely.
- Open Educational Resources (OER): Many websites provide free leveled reading books similar to Raz Kids, which can be downloaded legally.

How to Access Raz Kids Content for Free Legally

While downloading the full platform is not possible without a subscription, there are legitimate ways to access some Raz Kids materials for free:

1. Free Trials and Demo Accounts

Learning A-Z periodically offers free trials to educators and parents, which include access to a subset of Raz Kids content. These trials typically last for 30 days and provide a good opportunity to evaluate the platform's suitability.

Pros:

- Full access during trial period
- No cost involved
- Ability to explore features and resources

Cons:

- Limited duration
- Requires sign-up and possibly credit card info

2. School or Library Subscriptions

Many schools and libraries hold subscriptions to Raz Kids, allowing students to access the platform free of charge through their institution.

Pros:

- Free for students and patrons
- Access to the full range of books and features
- Often includes training and support

Cons:

- Limited to institution members
- May require a login or password

3. Use of Open Educational Resources (OER)

For those seeking free reading materials similar to Raz Kids, numerous websites offer leveled books and reading resources legally and at no cost.

Popular OER Platforms:

- ReadWriteThink: Offers printable and online leveled books
- International Children's Digital Library: Provides free access to children's books worldwide
- Project Gutenberg: For classic literature suitable for older children

Pros:

- Completely legal and safe
- Wide variety of resources
- Can often be downloaded or printed

Cons:

- Not directly integrated with Raz Kids features
- May lack interactive elements

Downloading Raz Kids Content via Third-Party Sources

Some users attempt to find Raz Kids content through third-party websites that claim to offer free

downloads. While tempting, this approach is fraught with risks.

Risks and Drawbacks:

- Legal Issues: Downloading proprietary content without permission is illegal.
- Security Threats: Many such sites distribute malware, viruses, or spyware.
- Quality and Reliability: Files from unofficial sources may be corrupted or incomplete.
- Lack of Support: No official support or updates for unofficial downloads.

Conclusion:

It is strongly advised to avoid unauthorized downloads and instead utilize legal avenues such as trials, library access, or open educational resources.

Features and Benefits of Using Raz Kids

Despite the challenges in obtaining Raz Kids content for free, the platform offers numerous features that justify its subscription fee for many users:

Key Features:

- Leveled Reading System: Books are categorized from Level A to Z, catering to different reading stages.
- Audio Support: Enables students to hear fluent reading, supporting pronunciation skills.
- Interactive Quizzes: Reinforce comprehension and retention of reading material.
- Progress Monitoring: Teachers and parents can track individual and class progress.
- Engaging Content: Wide variety of genres, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and more.
- Accessibility: Available on multiple devices, including tablets, computers, and smartphones.

Pros:

- Comprehensive learning platform
- Supports differentiated instruction
- Encourages independent reading
- User-friendly interface

Cons:

- Requires internet connection
- Subscription costs may be a barrier for some users
- Some users report that certain features are better suited for classroom settings

Alternative Free Resources for Early Readers

For those unable to access Raz Kids, numerous free resources can help foster early literacy skills:

- Starfall: Free and paid reading activities for young children.
- Storyberries: Free online stories and picture books.
- Oxford Owl: Free ebooks and reading resources for children.
- Epic!: Offers a free trial and a selection of free books.
- Libby/OverDrive: Borrow digital books from local libraries.

These resources provide a variety of leveled and engaging reading materials suitable for early learners.

Summary: Is a Free Download of Raz Kids Worth It?

In summary, while the idea of a Raz Kids Free Download may seem appealing, it is important to prioritize legal and safe methods of accessing educational content. The official Raz Kids platform does not offer a free download outside of its subscription service, and attempting to access content through unauthorized sources poses significant risks.

Best Approach:

- Take advantage of free trials and demo accounts.
- Utilize school or library subscriptions.
- Explore open educational resources for similar content.
- Support developers by subscribing legitimately if the platform meets your needs.

Final Verdict:

Raz Kids remains a valuable educational tool for developing reading skills, but its full content and features are accessible primarily through paid subscriptions or authorized access. Parents and educators should consider the available legal options to provide children with quality reading experiences without compromising safety or legality.

In conclusion, seeking a free download of Raz Kids content is not advisable due to legal and

security concerns. Instead, leverage trial offers, institutional access, and free educational resources to support early literacy development effectively and safely.

Question Is it possible to get Raz-Kids for free download legally? Raz-Kids is a subscription-based platform, and official free downloads are not available. However, educators and schools may access free trials or special offers through the official website. **Are there any free alternatives to Raz-Kids that can be downloaded?** Yes, there are free reading apps and resources like Epic, Starfall, and ReadingIQ that can be downloaded and offer similar features for early learners. **Can I find Raz-Kids APK files for free download online?** Downloading Raz-Kids APK files from unofficial sources is not recommended as it may be illegal and pose security risks. Always use official channels to access educational content. **Does Raz-Kids offer a free version or trial period for download?** Raz-Kids offers a free trial period for new users, which can be accessed through their website or authorized educational partners. Full access requires a subscription. **How can teachers access Raz-Kids resources for free?** Teachers can sign up for free trials or access limited free resources through their school's subscription or by contacting Raz-Kids for educational discounts. **Is Raz-Kids compatible with tablets and smartphones for free use?** Raz-Kids is accessible via web browsers and has apps for iOS and Android devices. However, full features typically require a subscription; free access is limited. **Are there any free downloads of Raz-Kids content for offline use?** Raz-Kids allows content to be accessed offline through its app for subscribers, but there are no free downloads available. Content access generally requires a paid account.

Related keywords: Raz Kids, Raz Kids free, Raz Kids free download, Raz Kids login, Raz Kids app, Raz Kids online, Raz Kids subscription, Raz Kids reading, Raz Kids literacy, Raz Kids platform

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