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Utterly Otterly Day

Written by Mary Casanova
Illustrated by Ard Hoyt

What can be better than an enjoyable and fun children's book that also includes a moral lesson? In this exuberant and charming picture book, award-winning author Mary Casanova takes a childhood reality, the need of children to explore, and creates a romp that is as spirited and fun as it is practical.

In *Utterly Otterly Day*, Little Otter likes to play in a carefree, unabashed, utterly otterly way. Dad and Mom both warn Little Otter to be careful, but does Little Otter listen? No. He's a big otter now—big enough to take care of himself. Trouble ensues as Little Otter wanders farther and farther from his parents and narrowly avoids scrape after scrape. After a very close call with a cougar, Little Otter begins to understand that no matter how big you get, it's good to have a mother and father around.

Mary Casanova is the author of numerous award-winning middle grade and young adult novels, including the all-new Dog Watch series. Her picture books have also received numerous accolades. *One Dog Canoe*, also illustrated by Ard Hoyt, has appeared on numerous state award lists, and *The Hunter*, illustrated by Ed Young, was an American Library Association Notable Book and a *Booklist* Editors' Choice. Mary lives near Ranier, Minnesota.

Ard Hoyt made a big splash with his debut, *One-Dog Canoe*, and an even bigger one later that same year with John Lithgow's #1 *New York Times* bestseller *I'm a Manatee*. Since then, he has illustrated more than half a dozen picture books to the delight of very young readers. His most recent titles are *When the Cows Got Loose* by Carol Weis and *Some Dog*, a second pairing with Mary Casanova. He lives in Bentonville, Arkansas.

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By Mary Casanova; illustrated by Ard Hoyt
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