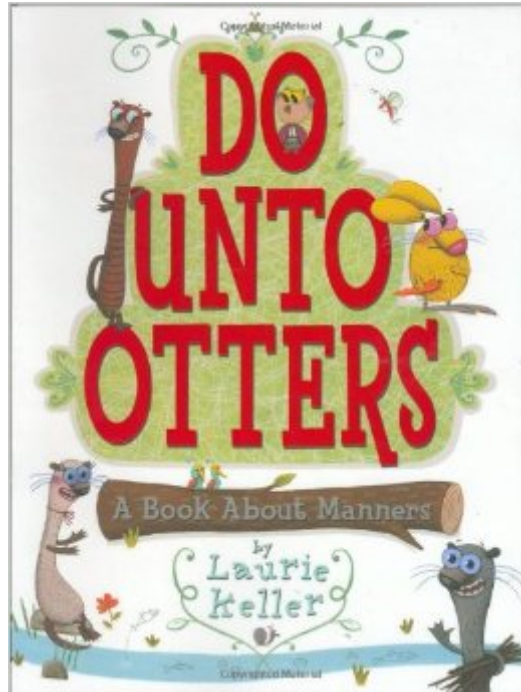


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# Do Unto Otters: A Book About Manners



## Synopsis

Mr. Rabbit's new neighbors are Otters. OTTERS! But he doesn't know anything about Otters. Will they get along? Will they be friends? Just treat otters the same way you'd like them to treat you, advises wise Mr. Owl. And so begins Mr. Rabbit's reflection on good manners. In her smart, quirky style Laurie Keller highlights how to be a good friend and neighbor • just follow the Golden Rule! This title has Common Core connections. A Junior Library Guild Selection Do Unto Otters is a 2008 Bank Street - Best Children's Book of the Year.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 460L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Henry Holt and Co. (BYR); 1st Edition edition (September 4, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0805079963

ISBN-13: 978-0805079968

Product Dimensions: 8.9 x 0.4 x 11.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (136 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #34,445 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #53 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Rabbits](#) #126 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Manners](#) #1894 in [Books > Children's Books > Humor](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

I've never seen a better book to introduce children to good manners. This one uses a cute animal premise -- Mr. Rabbit doesn't know how to treat his new neighbors, who are otters -- to build a smart, spirited tale based on the Golden Rule. Each page spread teaches the value of a different type of behavior. One shows how it helps to be friendly, another one honest, another one apologetic. But the book is never preachy, and, in fact, barely serious. There are lots of visual and verbal gags, and the inspired artwork mixes the friendliness of the character designs in the movie *Ratatouille* with the wackiness of *SpongeBob SquarePants*. Designed for years of use, the book has a reinforced binding, and a dust jacket that's printed with the same art as that on the cover itself.

When I first saw this book I thoroughly enjoyed it, but wasn't sure how my granddaughter (4 years old) would react. Well, she loves it and asks for it over and over. The book is very clever, and has lots of little surprises that aren't immediately noticed, making rereading fun. I highly recommend this book.

(Reviewer pulls out clipboard and pencil) Alright everyone! Looks like we've got ourselves the new Laurie Keller book here. I'm just going to go down the list for a second to make sure everything is accounted for: Aside-happy artwork that will take multiple readings to fully absorb? Check. Voices given to usually nonspeaking main characters? Uh-huh. Silliness in spades? Yep. Clever storyline that will appeal to kids and adults alike? Well... (Reviewer quietly puts clipboard and pencil down in order to speak frankly) Well, you see, that's where I get just a bit hung up on this one. Let me explain. Our story begins with Mr. Rabbit hopping through the woods, heading home to his comfortable tree hole. Once there, he runs into his new neighbors - the Otters. Mr. Rabbit is worried; he doesn't know much about otters and is nervous about how they will get along. To the rescue comes Mr. Owl, who provides a twist on the old golden rule. He asks Mr. Rabbit to list some of the good qualities he would like to see in Otters. Friendliness, honesty, and kindness all make the list, to name a few, with each characteristic illustrated in Keller's signature humorous fashion. You see, *Do Unto Otters* is really more of a how-to guide than a story. And as a how-to, it succeeds - taking a subject of universal importance and making it fresh and entertaining. While it doesn't hit the highs I was anticipating, *Do Unto Otters* is still 4 out of 5 by me - nothing to mope about.

We are absolutely IN LOVE with Laurie Keller's books. We own, and read on a regular basis, each one. *The Scrambled States of America*, *Open Wide Tooth School Inside*, *Arnie the Donut*, *Grandpa Gazillions Number Yard* have all been favorites in our book collection. *Do Unto Otters* didn't disappoint us! What a fun read! My son enjoys the references to other books hidden in the margins and back covers. Thanks Laurie, we can't wait for your next book!!!

Little late getting this delightful book. Showed it to my grandkids and read it myself...carefully so's not to miss anything. I like the sweetness of these characters and Laurie's ability to bring her message with fun in mind, but keeping the lesson true and easy to understand. Nothing to dislike in this wonderful book. Her great talent just grows and grows. It is fun that she always puts one of the characters from her previous book in the new one. Did you find it? One of Grandpa Gazillion's numbers dropped in to say, "Doo dee doo!" We are looking forward to more life lessons from this

artist/writer.J. George

This is a wonderful book with lessons taught in an entertaining and memorable way. Very clever title and illustrations. However, I find this to be a 'very busy book.' There author goes above and beyond to show some vital life lessons such as kindness, thinking before acting, treating "otters the way we would want the otters to treat us. This focuses on manners, being polite, not testing other people--often an early step in "bullying." Filled with great content such as KEY CONCEPTS-HONESTY, COOPERATION, SHARING, remembering to say THANK YOU, and much more. There are key words listed in 5 languages. This is a separate lesson in its self, and wonderful, in my opinion. There are some large illustrations with priceless illustrations. I am not exactly sure what age group could be best served in a classroom of numerous children-some able to focus and follow the flow, a child experiencing ADHD issues, and more. I automatically think of a classroom because there is a Kindergarten teacher in my family. I realize it is not a perfect world, and there also are parents and home for a great experience. I believe children will remember the concept of "Treat Otters the way you would want to be treated," I find this wording to be very creative for any person. Also, Mr. Hare is so cute. I would love too see a board book for young children with basic illustrations, clarity, and a few basic concepts as a building block to interpersonal skills. The good thing about a book is that it can be read many times, and as the child matures, so will emphasis on different aspects. Quotation by Socrates is found on the back cover of this book. Very wise words, in my opinion!

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