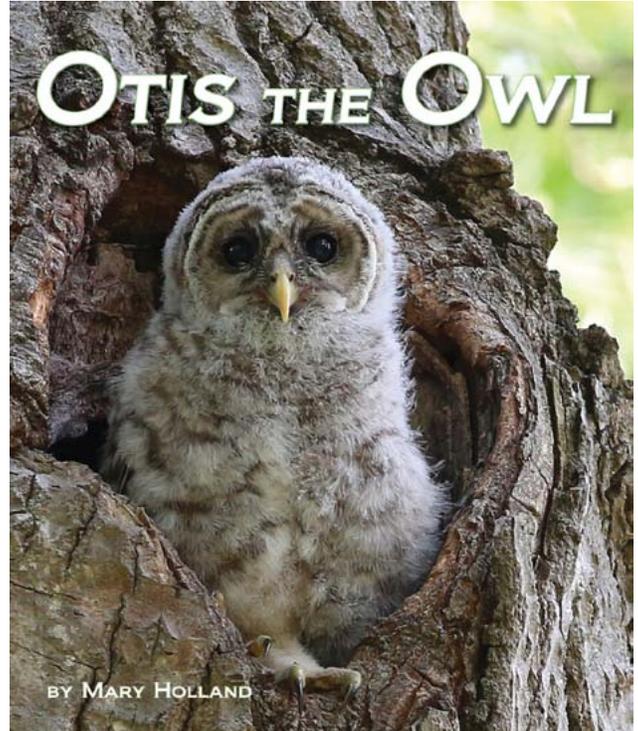


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It's a Hoot

Local author Mary Holland releases new nonfiction children's book all about owls.



When the calls of a baby barred owl came from a nest, author and photographer Mary Holland was ready with her camera. The adorable fluffy chicks are now stars of her newest children's book *Otis the Owl*, which makes its debut in bookstores this month from Arbordale Publishing.

Otis is a young barred owl and he spends his days peeking out from the nest waiting until he can fly one day soon. He fights with his sister, his parents bring him yummy mice to eat, and he practices his flying technique to get ready. The nonfiction text is filled with interesting owl facts and invites readers to guess what Otis will do next. Mary's detailed photographs make the book very appealing to young readers.

In the book's "For Creative Minds" section readers are able to dive into more facts, learning about an owl's diet and even have fun matching owl anatomy. Online, Arbordale provides educators with an extensive teaching guide, quizzes and related resources where educators are able to form lesson plans around each book.

After her work as a naturalist throughout much of the northeast, Mary now shares her vast knowledge of plants and wildlife through beautiful photography and award-winning books for children and adults. Inquiring minds might head over to Mary's popular daily blog, *Naturally Curious with Mary Holland* to get even more insight into the natural world.

Otis the Owl is available in hardcover (9781628559392, \$17.95), paperback (9781628559408, \$9.95) and ebook (9781628559422, \$6.95). A Spanish language edition, *Otis, el búho*, is available in paperback (9781628559415, \$9.95) and ebook (9781628559439, \$6.95). All editions are available through Arbordale Publishing and booksellers around the country.