



2014

One-Dog Sleigh by Mary Casanova; Illustrated by Ard Hoyt

Tessa Joy McMillan
tessajoycmillan@gmail.com

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Author: Casanova, Mary

Title: *One-Dog Sleigh*

Illustrator: Hoyt, Ard

Year of Publication: 2013

Publisher: Farrar, Straus & Giroux

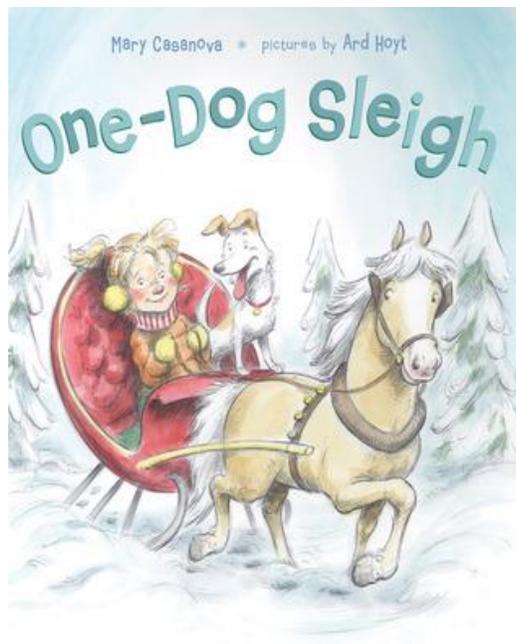
ISBN: 9780374356392

Number of pages: 30

Rating: Excellent

Reading/Interest Level: All

Keywords: Picture books; Stories in rhyme; Sleds; Sleighs; Animals; Dogs; Snow.



Review:

The characters from *One-Dog Canoe* return, but this time the little girl and her dog are going for a sleigh ride through the woods. As she and her dog ride through the forest, all the creatures they come across want to hitch a ride. Reluctantly, the girl lets them aboard to the point the sleigh gets stuck in the snow from too many passengers. With the threat of a possible blizzard, the girl wonders if they will ever get the sleigh back to her home in time. Everyone works together to push the sleigh out of the snow to help the little girl. After a full day of playing with their new forest friends, the girl and her dog make it safely home.

Casanova's text and Hoyt's illustrations are in perfect balance with one another in creating a rhythmically and visually cohesive picture book. Unlike most rhyming picture books, Casanova expertly words the whole story in rhyme without any part feeling awkward or disjointed. Hoyt's watercolor illustrations not only bring a sense of whimsy to Casanova's story, but they also bring a pleasing sense of flow, emotion, and depth to the story. Not only is this a great read-aloud book, it can also be used as a tool to teach children about the different animals that live in a forest. Plus the story showcases the importance of working together to solve a problem. *One-Dog Sleigh* is another successful picture book that showcases the best of Casanova's and Hoyt's literary teamwork.

Reviewer: Tessa McMillan

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