



Research Guide

Name: _____

Date: _____

Otters + Kin

1. The sea otter is a mammal. Name four traits mammals share.

2. How do sea otters swim?

Keeping Warm

3. How many hairs does a sea otter have on their bodies per square inch?

4. Why is their hair so thick?



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5. How do oil spills kill sea otters?

6. Why do otters rest with their paws and hind flippers out of the water?

Otter Diets

7. What do sea otters eat?



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8. How do they crack open "hard shelled" prey?

Social Lives

9. Sea otters live in loose-knit social groups. What are groups of otters called?

Mother and Pup

10. When is the only time a mother leaves her newborn pup?

11. At what age is a pup able to live on its own?



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Hunted for furs

12. Why did people want sea otter pelts?

13. Why did the Russians enslave the Aleuts?

An Uncertain Future

14. Is it legal to hunt sea otter today?

15. What is the biggest threat to the current sea otter population?
