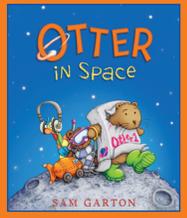
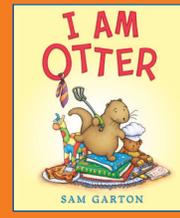


# OTTER'S FUN FACTS



Otters are the coolest! Here are some fun facts about sea otters and river otters.

## SEA OTTERS

- ✓ Sea otters float on their backs and use their tummies like a table to eat their food or carry their babies.
- ✓ They wrap themselves in kelp or hold hands with each other when they sleep to keep from drifting off. Mother sea otters will wrap their babies in kelp to keep them from floating away while the mothers dive for food.
- ✓ Sea otters live in kelp forests in the ocean. They are carnivores and eat sea urchins, crabs, and other shellfish that live on the ocean floor.
- ✓ A sea otter can hold its breath underwater for seven minutes!

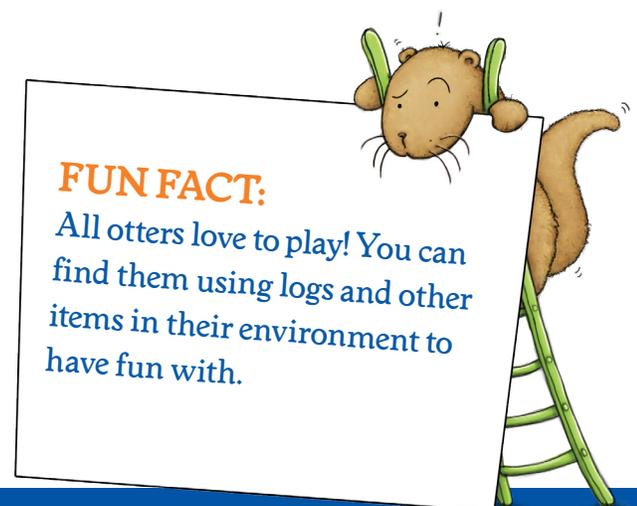


## RIVER OTTERS

- ✓ River otters live in underground dens called “holts” that they build near the water. The front door to their home is usually an underwater tunnel that leads to the above-water den. This den has a few holes in the top of it to let air in and to provide an emergency exit.
- ✓ They’re called river otters, but they don’t just live in rivers. They can also be found in streams, lakes, reservoirs, wetlands, and along marine coasts.
- ✓ River otters are carnivores and mostly eat fish but they will also eat crabs, turtles, birds, eggs, frogs, and small rodents.
- ✓ A river otter can hold its breath underwater for eight minutes!

## ALL OTTERS

- ✓ Otters are mammals which means they give birth to live babies and nurse them with milk.
- ✓ When diving, otters can close their ears and nostrils to keep water out. They can’t breathe underwater but they can hold their breath for a really long time.
- ✓ Instead of blubber, otters have two layers of thick fur to keep them warm. An outer layer of long guard hairs protects the soft underfur insulation.
- ✓ Otters have webbed feet and strong tails for swimming. Their long whiskers help them feel their way around underwater, and their strong noses help them find food.
- ✓ Otters are really good at using their front paws to help them catch and eat their food.



**FUN FACT:**  
All otters love to play! You can find them using logs and other items in their environment to have fun with.