

MOTE MARINE LABORATORY & AQUARIUM



Otters and their waters

We are otterly ecstatic for otters! Celebrate these sleek and wonderful watershed creatures with a storybook about their underwater lives. Then virtually meet Huck, Pippi and Jane, our North American river otters.



mote.org/seatrek

OTTO THE OTTER, A BIG SURPRISE

FACTS YOU OTTO KNOW



1. Otter fur is waterproof... Otters have two layers of fur. The outer layer of guard hairs, and the inner layer of softer fur. The guard hairs protect the insulated inner layer of fur, and also capture air in a way that keeps the otters both dry and lighter-weight underwater. Otters have the densest fur of any animal - as many as a million hairs per square inch in places.
2. Otters live near and around water. A group of otters is called a bevy or a "romp", because they play together and are energetic. When otters in the water, the group is often called a raft. They live in nests called a holt or couch.
3. Otters are found on every continent except Australia and Antarctica and the only habitats they do not live in are deserts, polar regions, and mountains.
4. Otters are mammals. A mammal is different because it gives birth to a live animal and produce milk to feed their young. All mammals have hair or fur. No other creature possesses true hair, and at least some hair is found on all mammals at some time during their lives... this includes whales and dolphins.
5. Otter families are usually limited to pups and their mothers, and these duos will spend most of their time either feeding or sleeping. In the downtime, otters love to play and will often build themselves slides along the banks of rivers.
6. Otters can dive to a depth of 60 feet.
7. Otters always wash themselves after every meal.
8. Otters generally live alone or in small social groups. They can live eight to nine years in the wild but have lived up to 21 years in captivity.

NAME:

DATE:

CLASS:

TEACHER:

My First Book Review

I READ

IT IS WRITTEN BY

THE BOOK IS ABOUT

MY FAVORITE PART WAS

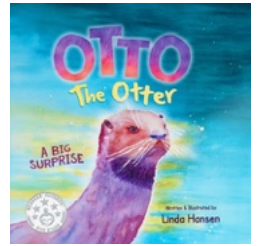
I DID NOT LIKE IT WHEN

I THINK THE BOOK WAS

- AMAZING
- GREAT
- GOOD
- OKAY
- BAD

Otto the Otter, A Big Surprise

Ten Things I Learned



1. How large is the area where an otter lives?

2. Where do otters sleep? In the water? On the ground?

3. What are otter babies called? Where are they born?

4. Can otter pups see and swim when they are born?

5. What do otters eat?

6. How do they find their food in the dark or cloudy water?

7. Why do otters have long whiskers?

8. Do otters do anything with their eyes, nose, and ears while they swim under water?

9. How long do otter pups nurse?

10. Are otters fast? How fast can they swim? How fast can they run?

OTTO THE OTTER'S WORD SEARCH

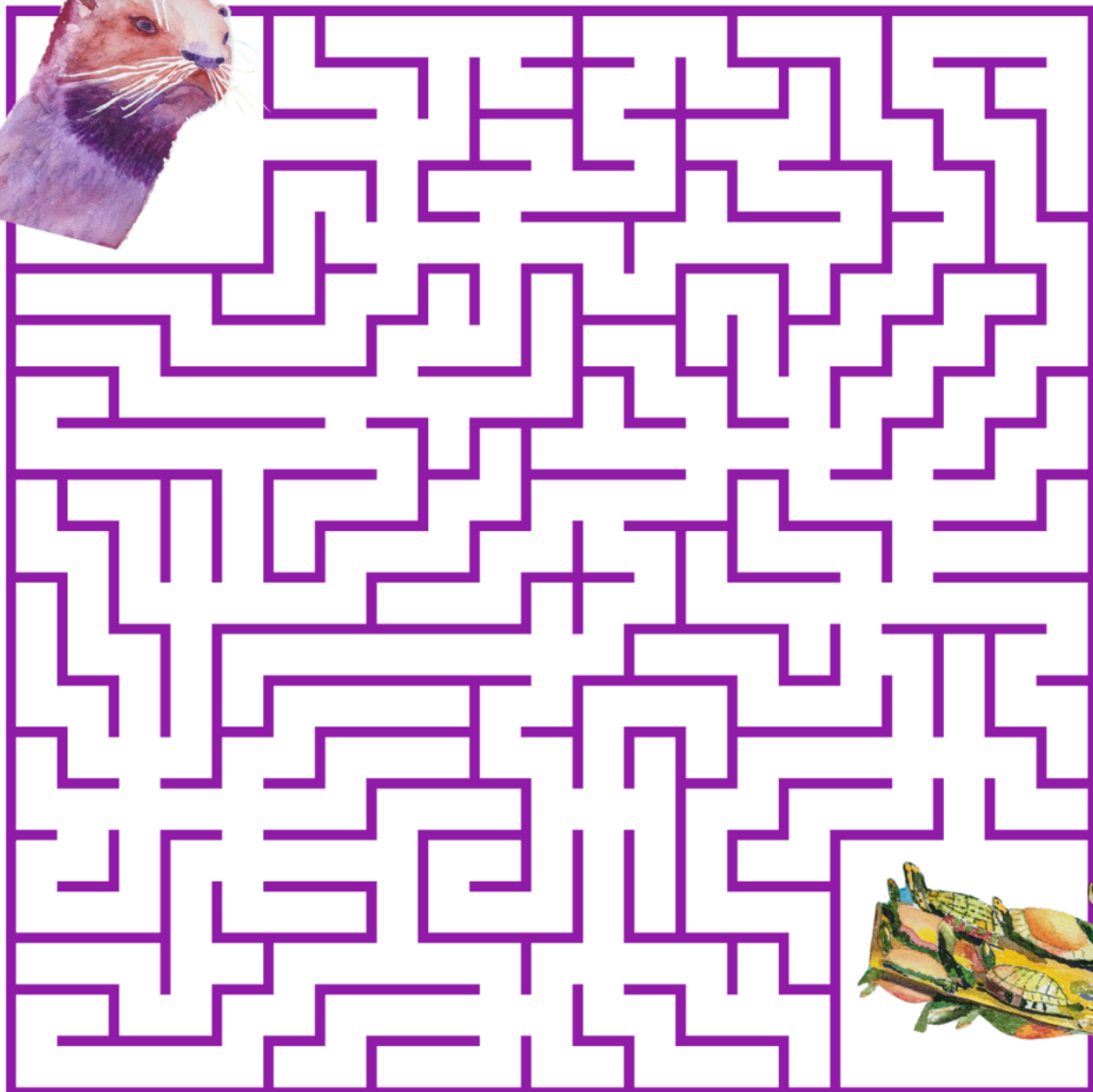
Find the words in the puzzle below



| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | U | L | F | U | T | T | P | O | N | D |
| H | N | O | I | H | U | E | R | O | S | L |
| E | O | A | S | P | A | E | F | H | U | C |
| N | P | U | H | U | T | N | N | T | A | R |
| P | L | E | S | T | S | O | S | P | F | E |
| U | A | H | O | E | Y | U | T | E | T | E |
| P | Y | P | P | C | H | S | E | K | N | K |
| S | R | T | F | E | N | C | E | S | H | R |
| A | N | U | R | P | A | E | N | C | O | C |
| E | C | F | D | D | E | D | S | U | U | U |
| C | T | P | N | D | P | O | D | I | E | D |
| A | P | I | N | E | E | L | T | R | U | T |
| T | L | R | I | R | C | R | R | R | A | F |

HOUSE
FENCE
RUDDER
OTTER
CREEK
FISH
PUPS
POND
PLAY
TURTLE

TAKE OTTO THROUGH THE POND



Name _____ Teacher _____

Class _____ Date _____

HELP THE PUPS FIND THE MISSING NUMBERS



Solve the equations below

$$9 + \underline{\quad} = 12$$

$$2 + \underline{\quad} = 8$$

$$5 + \underline{\quad} = 15$$

$$8 + \underline{\quad} = 16$$

$$2 + \underline{\quad} = 12$$

$$3 + \underline{\quad} = 9$$

$$7 + \underline{\quad} = 10$$

$$9 + \underline{\quad} = 11$$

$$4 + \underline{\quad} = 7$$

$$5 + \underline{\quad} = 13$$



LINDA HANSEN

Linda Hansen loves combining art and nature. After retiring from her career as the Executive Director of a non-profit, she has finally found the time to follow her creative passions. She is currently working in watercolor and is both the author and illustrator of this creative children's book.

Linda grew up in St. Louis, Missouri and currently lives in Florida with her husband and two dogs—very close to the small pond where this true story takes place.

You can contact Linda at www.lindahansenauthor.com

www.facebook.com/lindahansenauthor

Visit our website and sign up to get updates,
information and be entered into a drawing for
a free gift featuring Opal and/or her pups.

www.lindahansenauthor.com



SCAN ME