

ALL ABOUT SEA OTTERS

SEA OTTERS

LESSON PLAN

Week at a Glance:

- Day One: Physical Traits
- Day Two: Animal Classification: Mammals
- Day Three: Sea Otter Habitats
- Day Four: What Sea Otters Eat
- Day Five: Sea Otter Conservation



SEA OTTERS

VOCABULARY MATCH UP



vertebrate



mammal



warm-blooded

An animal that can keep its body temperature constant

An animal with a backbone

Live in the ocean or in saltwater

SEA OTTERS

DIET UNSCRAMBLE

Directions: Unscramble each word associated with what sea otters eat.

CNARVROEI _____
 SNLIA _____
 FSHI _____
 SHPRMI _____
 ASSULES _____
 BRA _____
 ALSM _____

SEA OTTERS

LESSON PLAN

Day One: Sea Otter Physical Traits

Objective: The students will be able to describe traits about sea otters.

LESSON PLAN: DAY ONE

Introduction (5 minutes):

Teacher Says: This week we are learning about a group of animals called sea otters! Sea otters are a group of animals that live in the ocean! They are very clever animals that spend most of their time floating in the water! What do you already know about sea otters? Sea otters are actually very important animals to our ocean ecosystems! Why do you think that is?

Today we will focus on a sea otters physical appearance, or what they look like!



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SEA OTTER ADJECTIVES

Directions: An adjective is a describing word. Fill in the blank with an adjective that describes the physical traits about a sea otter.

SEA OTTERS HAVE...
 a _____ tail
 _____ hair
 _____ body
 _____ eyes
 _____ teeth
 _____ paw
 _____ whisker



SEA OTTERS

SEA OTTER COMIC STRIP

Directions: Create a comic strip story about challenges a sea otter may have and how they overcome it.

Comic strip panels with speech bubbles and a sea otter illustration.



A COMPREHENSIVE FIVE DAY UNIT ALL ABOUT SEA OTTERS!

Includes lesson plans, graphic organizers, craft ideas, projects, comprehension questions and more!

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT

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ANIMALS

SEA OTTERS

LESSON PLAN

Week at a Glance:

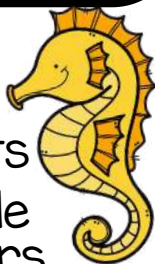
- *Day One: Physical Traits
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SEA OTTERS



LESSON PLAN



Day One: Sea Otter Physical Traits

Objective: The students will be able to describe traits about sea otters.

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LESSON PLAN: DAY ONE

Introduction (5 minutes):

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*Today we will focus on a sea otters physical appearance, or what they look like!

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Lesson (15 minutes):

- *The students will watch the video, "The Sea Otter" - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=piR7rXlIPBo>

- *After the video, discuss the physical traits of a sea otter - super thick fur, about 3-4 feet tall and 50-100 lbs, small & round head with whiskers, short, thick tail, small front paws, webbed back feet, and strong teeth!

- *The teacher will guide the students in completing the "Sea Otters can, have, are" graphic organizer.

Independent Work (10 minutes)

- *Students will complete the "Sea Otter Adjectives" activity sheet. Make sure to review that adjectives are describing words!

Closing (5 minutes)

- *Give the students a sticky note or index card. Write three things you would like to learn about sea otters.

SEA OTTERS

SEA OTTERS

CAN

ARE



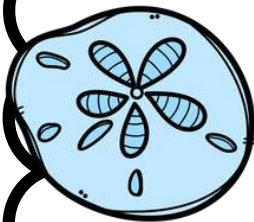
HAVE

SEA OTTERS

SEA OTTER ADJECTIVES

Directions: An adjective is a describing word. Fill in the blank with an adjective that describes the physical traits about a sea otter.

SEA OTTERS HAVE...



a _____ tail

_____ hair

_____ body

_____ eyes

_____ teeth

_____ paws

_____ whiskers

_____ feet



SEA OTTERS



LESSON PLAN



Day Two: Animal Classification
- Mammals

Objective: The students will be able to describe traits about sea otters.



LESSON PLAN: DAY TWO

Introduction (5 minutes):

*Teacher Says: There are many different groups of animals - reptiles, amphibians, birds, fish, mammals and insects. Which group do you think sea otters are in? That's right! If you said, mammals, you are correct! But, what makes a sea otter a mammal? Can you think of other examples of mammals? How are sea otters similar to them?

*Today, we will learn all about what makes sea otters a part of the mammal animal classification group!

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Lesson (15 minutes):

- *The teacher will read, *Mammals (Animal Classification)* by Angela Royston.

Throughout the story, discuss characteristics of mammals. Explain that sea otters are mammals because they have a backbone, are warm-blooded, have hair/fur, give birth to live babies & feed their babies milk and breathe using lungs.

- *The teacher will guide the students in completing the "Vocabulary Match Up" activity worksheet attached below.

Independent Work (10 minutes)

- *The students will independently answer the comprehension questions on the "Mammal Quick Check".

Closing (5 minutes)

- *Review the "Mammal Quick Check" together as a whole group.

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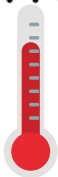
VOCABULARY MATCH UP



vertebrate



mammal



warm-blooded



marine

An animal that
can keep it's
body
temperature
constant

An animal with
a backbone

Live in the
ocean or in
saltwater

An animal with
hair, a
backbone and
drinks its
mother's milk

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MAMMAL QUICK CHECK

1. What makes a sea otter a mammal?

2. Do sea otters give birth to live young or do they lay eggs?

3. What does it mean to be warm-blooded?

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LESSON PLAN



Day Three: Sea Otter Habitats

Objective: The students will be able to identify where sea otters live and what they need in their habitats to survive.



LESSON PLAN: DAY THREE

Introduction (5 minutes):

*Teacher Says: This week, we are learning about sea otters. So far, we have learned about the physical traits of a sea otter and what makes them a mammal. What do you remember about what we have learned so far? Today, we will learn about a sea otter's habitat. What is a habitat?

*A habitat is where an animal lives, sleeps, and eats! Where do you think sea otters live? What do you think they need in their habitat to survive?

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Lesson (15 minutes):

*Sea Otters can be found mainly in the North Pacific Ocean. In North America, you may find them around Alaska, western Canada, and northwestern United States. In Asia, they are mainly around eastern Russia and northern Japan. What do sea otters need in their habitats to survive? Cold ocean water, kelp forests, food, safe shorelines, rocks & shells, and other sea otters!

*The students will use the "Main Idea and Key Details" graphic organizer to brainstorm three details to support what sea otters need in their habitats to thrive.

Independent Work (15 minutes)

*The students will use the writing template worksheet attached below to write a paragraph about what sea otters need in their habitat to thrive.

Closing (5 minutes)

*The students will share their paragraph with a partner. Each partner will share one strength and one area of growth about each other's writing piece.

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MAIN IDEA AND KEY DETAILS

What helps sea otters survive in their habitat?

MAIN IDEA →

Sea Otters need many important things in their habitat to thrive!

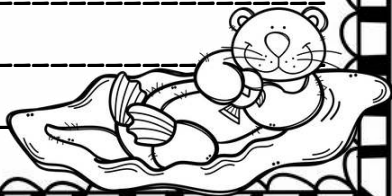
Detail #1 →

Detail #2 →

Detail #3 →

SEA OTTERS

BY: _____



SEA OTTERS



LESSON PLAN



Day Four: What Sea Otters Eat

Objective: The students will be able to identify what sea otters eat.



LESSON PLAN: DAY FOUR

Introduction (5 minutes):

*Teacher Says: Today, we will learn about what sea otters eat. Make a prediction: What do you think they eat? Do you think sea otters are carnivores, omnivores or herbivores?

*Explain that sea otters are mainly carnivores, which means they eat meat/other small animals. Sea otters eat sea urchins, crabs, clams, mussels, snails, fish, octopus and squid! Sea otters will actually place a rock on their belly while floating in the ocean and use it to crack the shells of crustaceans to get out the meat.

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Lesson (15 minutes):

- *The teacher will read the book, "Explore My World: Sea Otters" by Jill Esbaum. Questions to ask during/after reading - What do sea otters eat? How do sea otters get their food? How do they open crustaceans? Why do they need to eat so much every day?
- *The students will record different animals that sea otters eat using the "Sea Otter Diet" graphic organizer.

Independent Work (15 minutes)

- *The students will complete the "Diet Unscramble" worksheet attached below. They will unscramble each word that is associated with a sea otter's diet.

Closing (5 minutes)

- *Review the "Diet Unscramble" activity worksheet together as a whole group.

SEA OTTERS

SEA OTTER DIET

Directions: Write what sea otters eat in each of the circles.



SEA OTTERS

DIET UNSCRAMBLE

Directions: Unscramble each word associated with what sea otters eat.

C N A R V R O E I

S N L I A

F S H I

S H P R M I

M S S U L E S

C B R A

C A L S M

S A E U C H R N I



SEA OTTERS



LESSON PLAN



Day Five: Sea Otter Conservation

Objective: The students will be able to describe ways to keep sea otters safe.



LESSON PLAN: DAY FIVE

Introduction (5 minutes):

*Teacher Says: Sea otters, like a lot of other ocean animals, can sometimes face challenges in staying safe in their habitat. People are working hard though to keep them safe, healthy and thriving! They are actually called a “keystone species” because we NEED sea otters in the ocean to help keep healthy! One way they keep the ocean healthy is by eating sea urchins and keeping the sea urchin population under control! So, how can we help keep sea otters safe? How can we keep the ocean healthy?

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Lesson (15 minutes):

*Teacher Says: There are many ways that we can help! People can work to keep beaches and waterways clean by picking up pollution/trash. They can also protect kelp forests where sea otters live, spread awareness and share what you know about sea otters, support organizations that help marine wildlife, make rules about pollution and hunting, and more!

*The students will record ways to keep sea otters safe in the "How to Keep Sea Otters Safe" graphic organizer attached.

Independent Work (15 minutes)

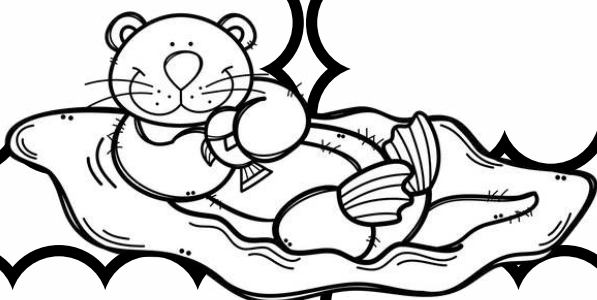
*The students will create a comic strip story using the attached worksheet below. They will write a story using pictures and captions about a challenge that a sea otter might face and how they can overcome it.

Closing (5 minutes)

*Create "Save the Sea Otters" posters together! Make sure to include pictures and tips on ways to protect/keep sea otters safe!

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How To Keep Sea
Otters Safe!



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SEA OTTER COMIC STRIP

Directions: Create a comic strip story about challenges a sea otter may have and how they overcome it.

