



Sea Otter Biologist

Provided by:

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Information	Program Description
2nd-5th Grade, but can be adapted for younger and older students.	Students will explore Sea Otters through the eyes of wildlife scientist Brenda Ballachey. They will learn about sea otters through lessons on otters' behavior, characteristics of living things, and natural environmental changes.
Curriculum Format	Each lesson can be presented in 45-60 minutes. Teaching Guide with complete instructions is provided. Teaching Kit with materials needed to present lessons is provided. User may need to provide standard classroom supplies (pencils, scissors, glue). If a lesson requires perishable items (e.g. milk), user is responsible for these purchases.

Lesson	Overview
One: Otters in Action	Students will watch a video about biologist Brenda Ballachey and discuss the Otters' behavior they saw in the video. Then, they will do an activity to compare human behavior to otters' behavior.
Two: Kelp Critters	Students will create a kelp forest and learn about the animals that live among the kelp. Then, they will draw the animals to create a kelp forest community.
Three: Fragile Waters	Students will look at a map of the Gulf of Alaska and track the movement of an oil spill. Then, they will do an activity that includes conducting three oil investigations.
Four: Otter Smorgasbord	Students will investigate what kinds and how much food sea otter pups eat during their first year of life.
Five: Tracking Otters	Students will create a handmade "antenna" to listen for clicking sounds and try to determine where a "sea otter" is located in the classroom.

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