

## **River Otters**



Written by Lee-Ann Lear

River otters love water, and tend to live next to rivers.



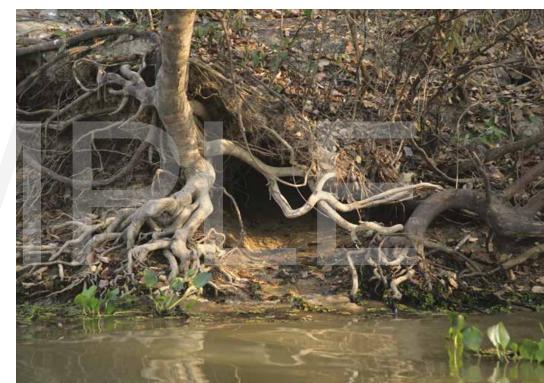
River otters love to swim!

They have webbed feet and a flat tail to help them steer and swim fast under the water.



4

River otters dig dens to live in. They cover the den with moss and grass to help keep it dry.



In the spring, river otters have pups. The mom feeds them and keeps them in the den until they get big and strong.



8

River otters live off fish, frogs, and crabs. They can track fish by smelling them!



In winter, river otters still go swimming! The water is chilled, so they tend to swim in the day when the sun is up, and sleep in a den when the sun sets.

River otters love to play in the water! They swim, shove, and splash in the water to have fun.



12



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Book 7 Blue Series

Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence

Punctuation/Text Features

-<er>/er/ (e.g., otter)

-n/a

Orthographic Conventions

High Frequency Words

-r-controlled vowel

Morphology

-"love"

-<o> is often pronounced as /ŭ/ when followed by <v> or <m> (e.g., "love")

Word Count

-suffix <-ed> added to noun to form adjective

-153 words

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