

Otter KS2 Answers

Page 1

Why do you think otters have such long whiskers?

Otters use their whiskers to find food, stay away from larger predators and avoid bumping into objects underwater. Whiskers are sensitive to movement and vibration. In the water, animals with whiskers use them to feel the water movements caused by other creatures moving around. Longer whiskers mean a greater range, like having a larger satellite dish to pick up data. In murky water or under the darkness of night, otters can still find food by using their whiskers alone to guide them

Page 2

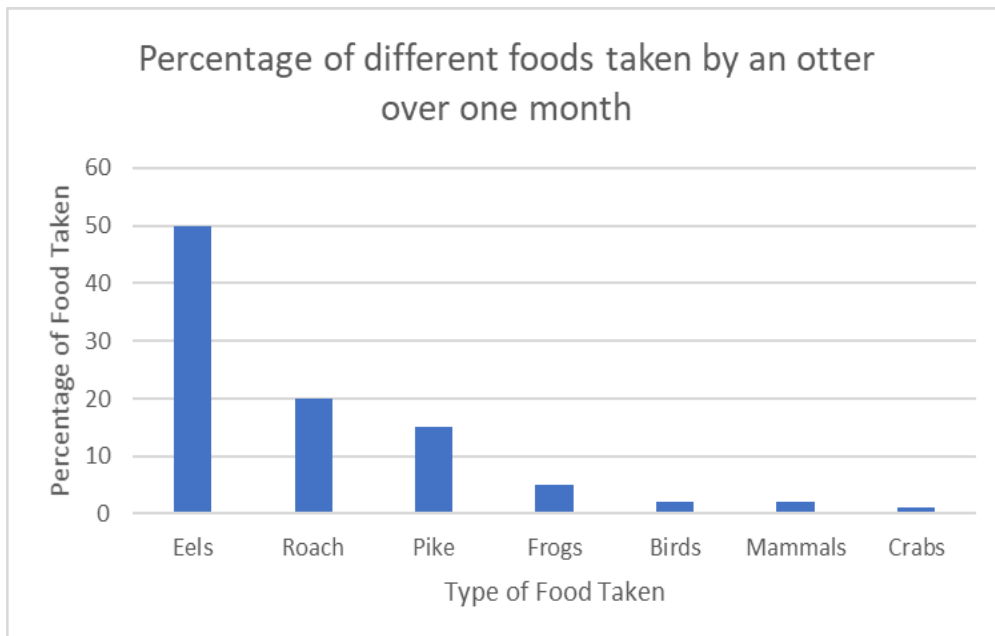
Food Chain: each gap has the right number of dashes for each word

Sun → Water Plant → FISH → OTTER

Teeth: top to bottom

- Incisor: small nipping teeth at front, between canines
- Canine: long, pointed teeth at sides.
- Carnassial: shearing teeth behind canines

Page 3



Page 4

Can you think of any places along a river bank where an otter might leave a dropping?

On top of a boulder, on a grass tussock or molehill, on sand bars or ledges under bridges (Page 5)

Page 6

- Cross: 1 and 3
- Tick: 2 and 4

Page 8

All the right answers are hidden in the text throughout the booklet

- 1) Holt (Page 4 and 5)
- 2) Fish. Eels, roach and salmon are taken by river otters, while coastal otters catch bottom-dwelling fish. (Page 3)
- 3) Carnivores (Page 2)
- 4) No. Otters are solitary (Page 4)
- 5) Near the water, in a place where there are plenty of bushes and undergrowth to hide in (Page 4)

Page 10

Why do you think otter kits are born with fur?

Kits can be born any time of the year, so in Winter or Spring it will be very cold. Also, otter fur is waterproof which will keep them dry if it is rainy or if the holt gets flooded.

Page 11

Each gap has the right number of dashes for each word

- A baby otter – KIT
- An otter's home – HOLT
- An otter likes to live near this – WATER
- Some otters live near this – RIVER
- Other otters live near this – SEA
- Otters like to do this into the water – DIVE



- How otters get about in the water - SEA
- What otters use to help them swim - WEBBED FEET
- What otters use to help them dive - LONG TAIL
- Otters sometimes use these to get into the water - SLIDE
- An otter's resting place (we use them too!) - COUCH
- An otter dropping - SPRAIN
- An area that is defended by the otter living there - TERRITORY
- Otters do this to keep their fur waterproof - GROOM
- An otter is one of these because it has 'warm-blood' - MAMMAL
- An otter is one of these because it only eats meat - CARNIVORE
- Foods that the otter likes to eat - FISH, FROGS and CRABS
- The otters favourite kind of fish - EELS

