

Habitats and Adaptations

Subject – Science
Also links to – Geography
Key Stage – 2&3



Post Activity – Otter Adaptations

Objectives:

- To gain an understanding of the different types of Otter habitat.
- To identify ways in which our Otters have adapted to life at Blue Planet Aquarium.

Activity description:

Although Otters are terrestrial animals; they are well adapted to an aquatic lifestyle and spend a large part of the day in and around the water.

You will notice that the otter enclosure at Blue Planet Aquarium has a number of elements to it.

- An indoor enclosure
- An outdoor holt/nest box.
- Pond
- Grassed area
- Rock formation

Each element of the enclosure is very important and is designed to encourage their natural behaviour

In groups; discuss ways in which you think the Otters have adapted to their semi-aquatic lifestyle and how various elements we have added to the enclosure recreate their natural habitat and allow them to use these adaptations.

Here is an example:-

The Otters have partially webbed front paws that allow them to forage for grubs and worms when out on their grassed area.

These paws are different to the fully webbed ones on their hind legs.

Why do you think the paws on the hind legs are webbed?

