



Note to Librarians, Teachers, and Parents:

Blastoff! Readers are carefully developed by literacy experts and combine standards-based content with developmentally appropriate text.

Level 1 provides the most support through repetition of highfrequency words, light text, predictable sentence patterns, and strong visual support.

Level 2 offers early readers a bit more challenge through varied simple sentences, increased text load, and less repetition of highfrequency words.

Level 3 advances early-fluent readers toward fluency through increased text and concept load, less reliance on visuals, longer sentences, and more literary language.

Level 4 builds reading stamina by providing more text per page, increased use of punctuation, greater variation in sentence patterns, and increasingly challenging vocabulary.

Level 5 encourages children to move from "learning to read" to "reading to learn" by providing even more text, varied writing styles, and less familiar topics.

Whichever book is right for your reader, Blastoff! Readers are the perfect books to build confidence and encourage a love of reading that will last a lifetime!

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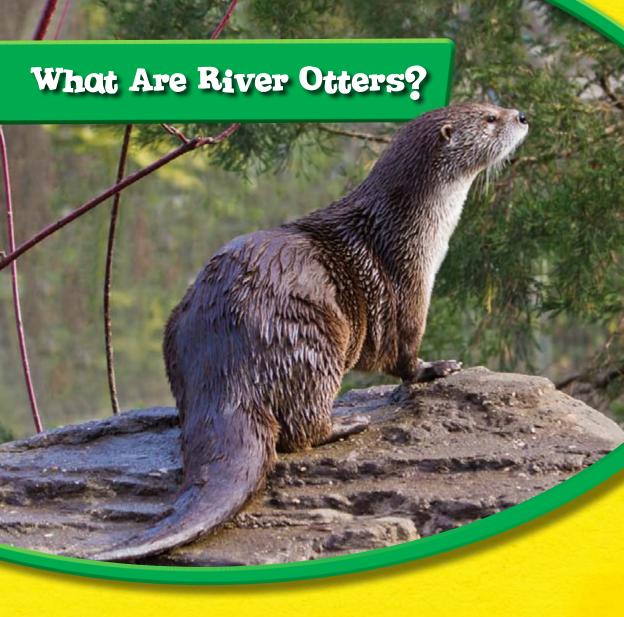
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River otters are water-loving mammals. They are usually found in rivers, marshes, and swamps.



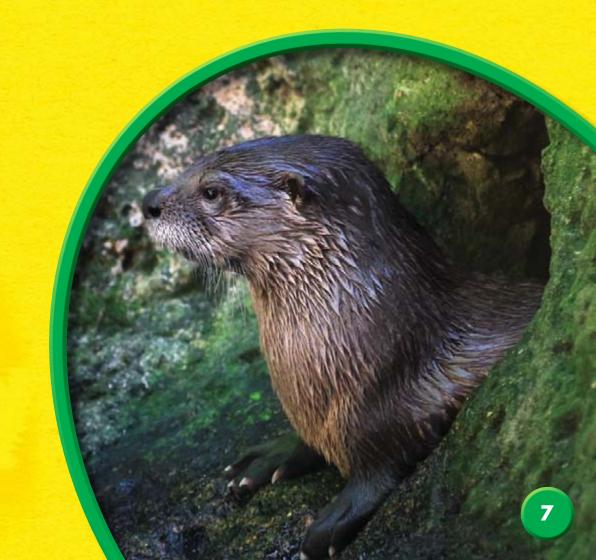
North American river otters live throughout the United States and Canada. **Neotropical** river otters are found from Mexico to Panama.



River otters live in **dens**.

They make these in hollow logs and riverbanks.

They also make dens from the **burrows** of other animals.
These usually have underwater entrances that lead to nests lined with grass and leaves.



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