

# Adaa's Story

The Remarkable Life  
of a Rescued Sea Otter



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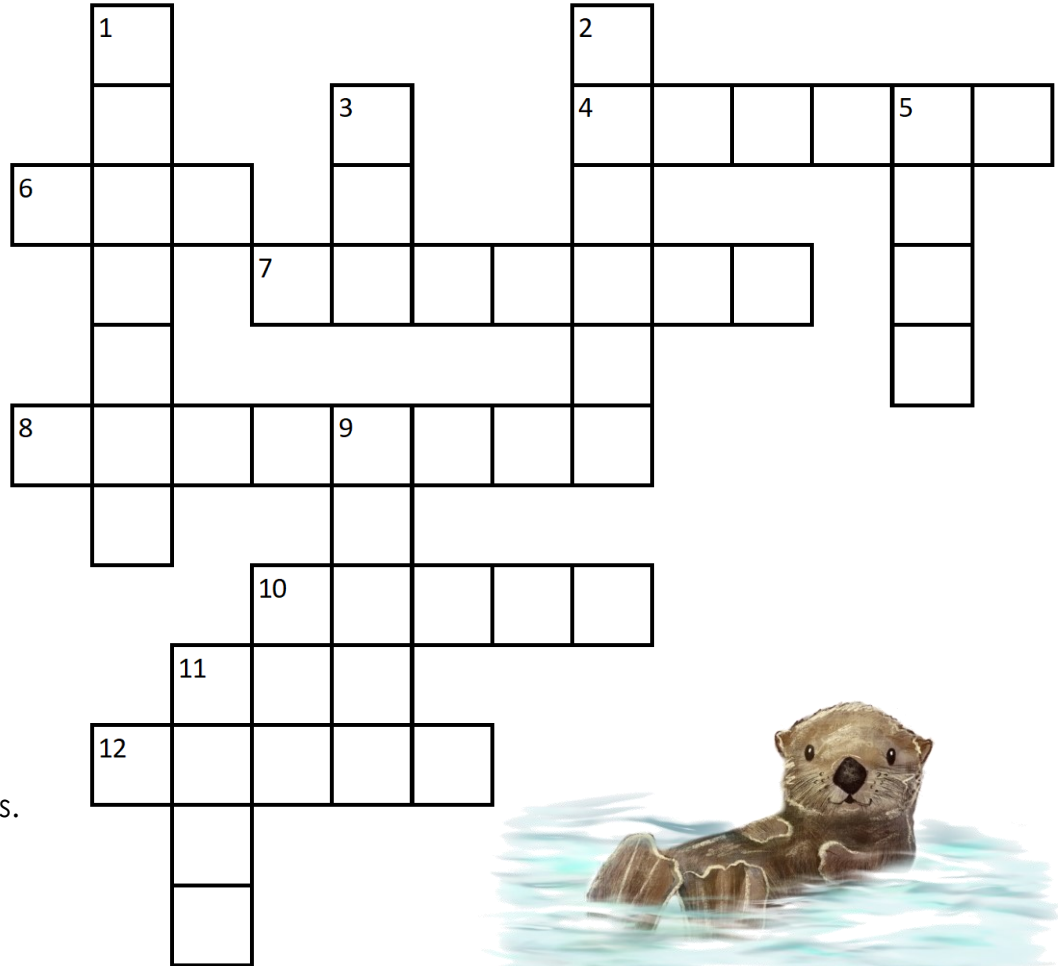
by Rachel J.E. Sprague

## Sea Otter Crossword Puzzle



### **DOWN:**

1. Sea otters rely on their dense fur for warmth because they do not have a layer of \_\_\_\_\_ like most marine mammals.
2. Sea otters are the smallest \_\_\_\_\_ mammal in North America.
3. Sea otters have the densest \_\_\_\_\_ of any animal.
5. Mother sea otters will often wrap their babies in \_\_\_\_\_ so they don't float away.
9. Sea otters use rocks as \_\_\_\_\_ to open hard shells.
11. A group of sea otters floating together is called a \_\_\_\_\_.



### **ACROSS:**

4. It is believed that about ninety percent of the world's sea otters live off the coast of \_\_\_\_\_.
6. A baby sea otter is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Sea otters eat spiny sea \_\_\_\_\_, and in doing so help protect the kelp forests.
8. Sea otters are a \_\_\_\_\_ species because they play a key role in having a healthy ecosystem.
10. If you ever find a stranded sea otter, never try to \_\_\_\_\_ it.
12. True or False: Baby sea otters love to dive underwater.

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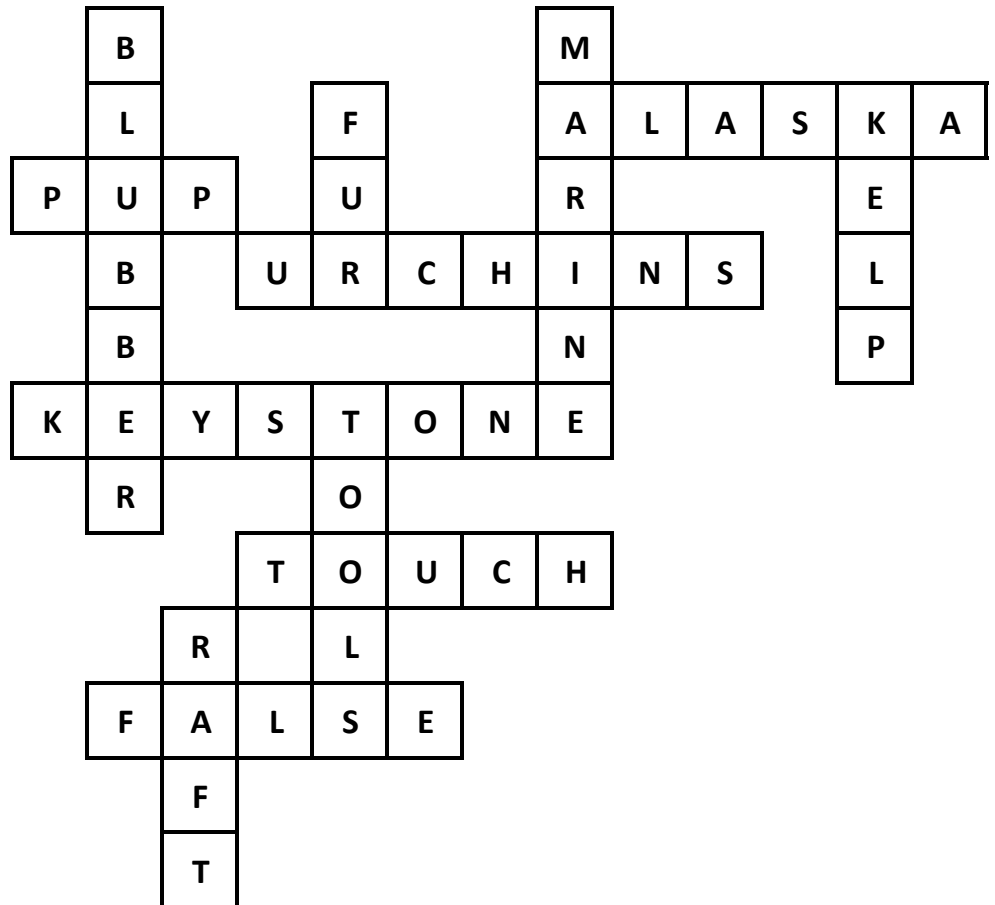
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## Crossword Puzzle – Answer Key

### DOWN:

1. Sea otters rely on their dense fur for warmth because they do not have a layer of **blubber** like most marine mammals.
2. Sea otters are the smallest **marine** mammal in North America.
3. Sea otters have the densest **fur** of any animal.  
[up to one million hairs per square inch]
5. Mother sea otters will often wrap their babies in **kelp** so they don't float away.
9. Sea otters use rocks as **tools** to open hard shells.
11. A group of sea otters floating together is called a **raft**.

### Answer Key



### ACROSS:

4. It is believed that about ninety percent of the world's sea otters live off the coast of **Alaska**.
6. A baby sea otter is called a **pup**.
7. Sea otters eat spiny sea **urchins**, and in doing so help protect the kelp forests.
8. Sea otters are a **keystone** species because they play a key role in having a healthy ecosystem.  
[sea urchins would destroy the kelp forests if not for sea otters keeping sea urchin populations down]
10. If you ever find a stranded sea otter, never try to **touch** it.
12. True or False: Baby sea otters love to dive underwater. **FALSE** – their fur is even denser than adult sea otters. So dense that they can't dive underwater even if they tried. They can only float.