



# Giant River Otters



### by Rachel Lynette

#### **Consultant:**

Dr. Mark C. Andersen Department of Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology New Mexico State University



New York New York

#### Credits

Cover and Title, © worldswildlifewonders/Shutterstock Images; 4–5, © Luiz Claudio Marigo/naturepl.com; 6, © Red Line Editorial; 6–7, © Tier und Naturfotografie/SuperStock; 8, © Red Line Editorial; 8–9, 22 (top), © Pete Oxford/naturepl.com; 10, 23 (bottom), © Minden Pictures/SuperStock; 10–11, © Gerard Lacz Images/SuperStock; 12–13, © worldswildlifewonders/Shutterstock Images; 14–15, 23 (middle top) © Minden Pictures/SuperStock; 16, 23 (middle bottom), © GlobetrotterJ/Shutterstock Images; 16–17, © NHPA/SuperStock; 18–19, © Glenn Bartley/All Canada Photos/SuperStock; 20–21, © Minden Pictures/SuperStock; 22 (middle), © GlobetrotterJ/Shutterstock Images; 22 (bottom), © NHPA/SuperStock; 23 (top), © worldswildlifewonders/Shutterstock Images.

Publisher: Kenn Goin Editor: Joy Bean

Creative Director: Spencer Brinker Photo Researcher: Arnold Ringstad

Design: Emily Love

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data in process at time of publication (2013) Library of Congress Control Number: 2012039856 ISBN-13: 978-1-61772-754-2 (library binding)

Copyright © 2013 Bearport Publishing Company, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in whole or in part, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without written permission from the publisher.

For more information, write to Bearport Publishing Company, Inc., 45 West 21st Street, Suite 3B, New York, New York 10010. Printed in the United States of America.

### **Contents**

Meet a giant river otter family	4
What is a giant river otter?	6
At home	8
Strong swimmers	10
Thick fur	12
Giant river otter pups	14
Leaving the den	16
Many sounds	18
All grown up	20
Glossary	22
Index	
Read more	24
Learn more online	24
About the author	24

# Meet a giant river otter family

It's early morning, but a family of giant river otters is already awake. The parents are teaching their pups how to catch fish. otter eating fish



Then when they see a fish, the parents show them how to grab it.



### What is a giant river ofter?

Otters are long, furry mammals.

Of the 13 kinds of otters on Earth, giant river otters are the largest.

They can grow to be six feet (1.8 m) long and weigh up to 75 pounds (34 kg).





### Index

dens 8-9, 14-15, 16, 20

feet 10

fish 4, 5, 17

food 4, 5, 17, 20

fur 12-13

giant river otter families 4,

8, 9, 10, 16–17, 20

giant river otter mothers

8, 11, 14

giant river otter pups 4, 8–9, 10–11, 14–15, 16–17,

18-19

jungles 8

predators 16

**rivers** 8, 12

size 6

sounds 18-19

swimming 10-11

tail 10, 11

water 5, 10-11, 12

### **Read more**

**Clarke, Ginjer L.** Baby Otter (Penguin Young Readers, L3). New York: The Penguin Group (2009).

**Rustad, Martha.** Baby Sea Otter Story (Pebble Plus: Baby Animals). North Mankato, MN: Capstone Press (2012).

**Swanson, Diane.** Otters (Welcome to the World Series). Vancouver, BC: Whitecap Books Ltd. (2010).

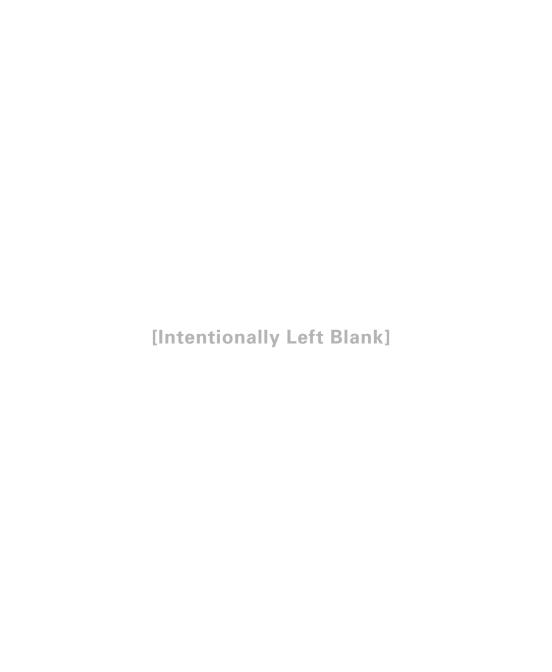
### **Learn more online**

To learn more about giant river otters, visit www.bearportpublishing.com/JungleBabies

### About the author

Rachel Lynette has written more than 100 nonfiction books for children. She also creates resources for teachers. Rachel lives near Seattle, Washington. She enjoys biking, hiking, crocheting hats, and spending time with her family and friends.







## Giant River Otters

In a den by a river's edge, a mother giant river otter gives birth to her pups. The little ones stay in the cozy den for a whole month. Once the pups are ready to leave the den, every member of the otter family helps out by teaching the pups how to swim and hunt for food. Look inside to discover what these pups need to learn before they are fully grown.

Capybaras

**Giant River Otters** 

**Jaguars** 

Kinkajous

Pink River Dolphins
South American Tapirs
Squirrel Monkeys
Three-Toed Sloths



