

Name _____

The Role of Otters in the Ecosystem

Short Answer Key

1. Otters eat fish, sea urchins, crabs, and other aquatic animals.
2. Otters are a key part of the food chain, eating smaller animals and being prey for larger animals.
3. Eating sick or weak fish helps reduce the spread of disease in the water, improving overall water quality.
4. Otters are called "indicator species" because their health reflects the health of their environment.
5. Kelp forests provide shelter for many animals and help reduce carbon dioxide in the ocean.

