

Name _____

How Does an Otter Move?

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Otters swim gracefully using their tails and feet, but they can also run quickly on land, though they appear less elegant.
2. Otters are well-adapted to their environment because their webbed feet, long tails, and waterproof fur make them excellent swimmers and efficient movers.
3. Otters' tails help them steer and propel themselves in the water, making their movements smooth and fast.
4. Sliding helps otters conserve energy, escape predators, or quickly reach the water, showing how even playful behaviors can be practical.

