

Name _____

Do Otters Form Relationships with Other Species?

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Understanding these relationships shows how otters contribute to their ecosystems and why protecting them is important for environmental balance.
2. Otters keep sea urchin populations in check, which helps kelp forests thrive. These forests provide shelter and food for many marine animals.
3. Without otters, sea urchin populations could grow out of control and destroy kelp forests, harming the entire ecosystem.
4. Humans can help otters by protecting their habitats, reducing pollution, and supporting laws that conserve wildlife.

