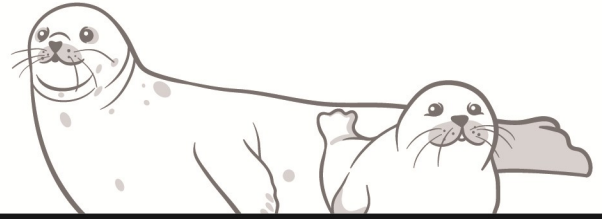




Lesson plan for grades 3–5

Animal birthday party planning

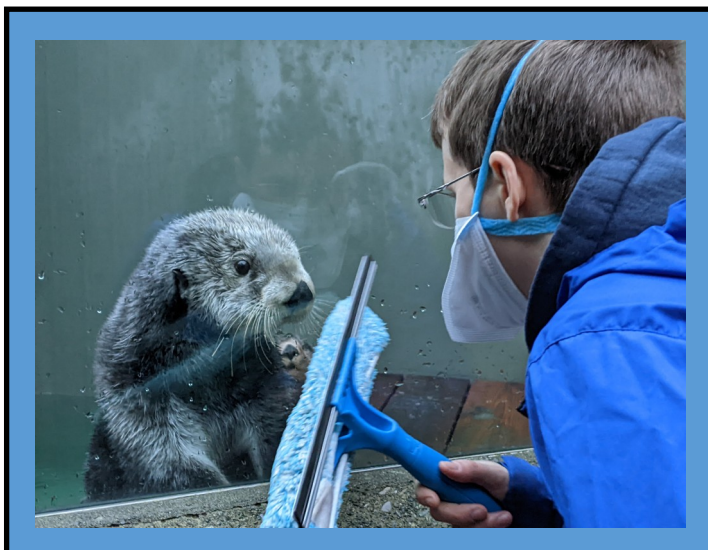


Let's Plan a Party for Sekiu, Grade 3

Name: _____

Date: _____

Say “Hello” to Sekiu, a sea otter that lives at the Seattle Aquarium. Her birthday is on January 14th. Please help us to celebrate this wonderful animal.



We will be researching what sea otters need to stay alive and be healthy. What we learn will help us to design the perfect birthday party for Sekiu. After that we will make her a birthday card.

Background Questions

There are no right or wrong answers here. This is to help us start brainstorming and thinking deeply about birthdays.

What is a birthday?

Do you have a favorite way to celebrate your birthday?

What are some ways you have seen people celebrate birthdays?

Draw a doodle of a baby animal you have seen before.

Research Resources

Sekiu has lived at the Seattle Aquarium her whole life. She was born on January 14th and celebrates her birthday every year. The animal care experts at the Seattle Aquarium know that her favorite food is Dungeness crab because she can eat a whole crab in just a few minutes. She lives with another otter named Mishka. Sea otters do not live alone. In the wild they live in big groups called rafts. Floating in groups helps protect them from predators and conserves body heat in the cold water. They sometimes hold paws to stay together while they sleep.

Sea otters in the wild mostly live in kelp forests where there are lots of different foods for them to eat like crab, sea urchins, clams, and octopus. Sea otters need to eat a lot of food to help them stay warm in the cold water. They will eat up to 25 percent of their body weight every single day, that is a lot of food!

Sea otters live 10—15 years in the wild, but they can live longer in human care. Mother sea otters give birth to one pup per year, and spend several months teaching their pup survival skills, like what food to eat, how to swim and dive, groom their fur, use rocks as tools, and how to play.

Research Questions

From the resources available to you, try and find the answers to all of these questions. These answers will help you to plan the perfect birthday party for Sekiu, one that is safe, healthy, and fun!

How long do sea otters live?

Years

Do Sea Otters hatch from eggs?

yes

no

Do sea otters do anything that you find interesting or helpful?

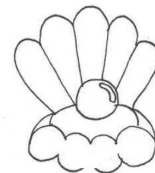
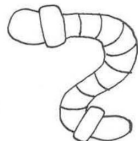
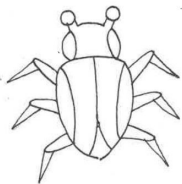
Do sea otters live alone?

yes

no

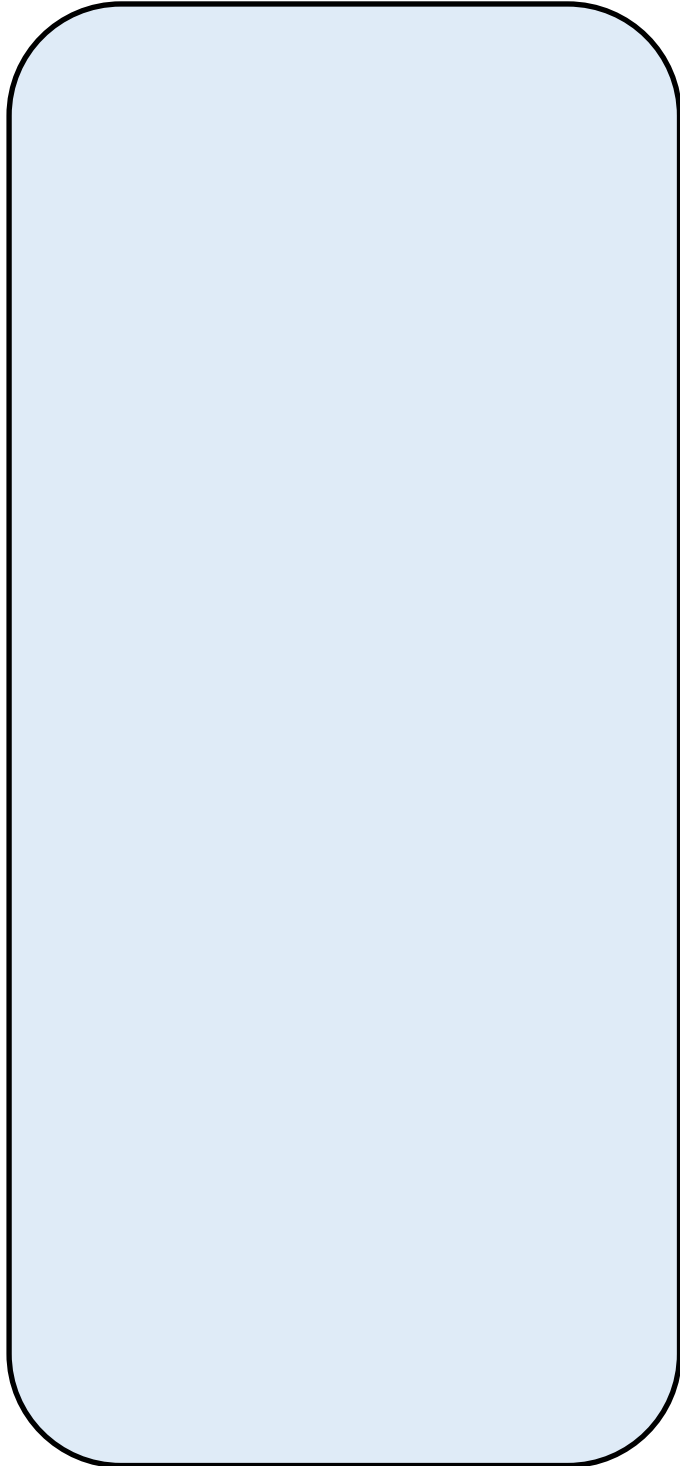
Where do sea otters live?

What do sea otters eat? Circle the correct foods. If you don't see the correct food, draw it.

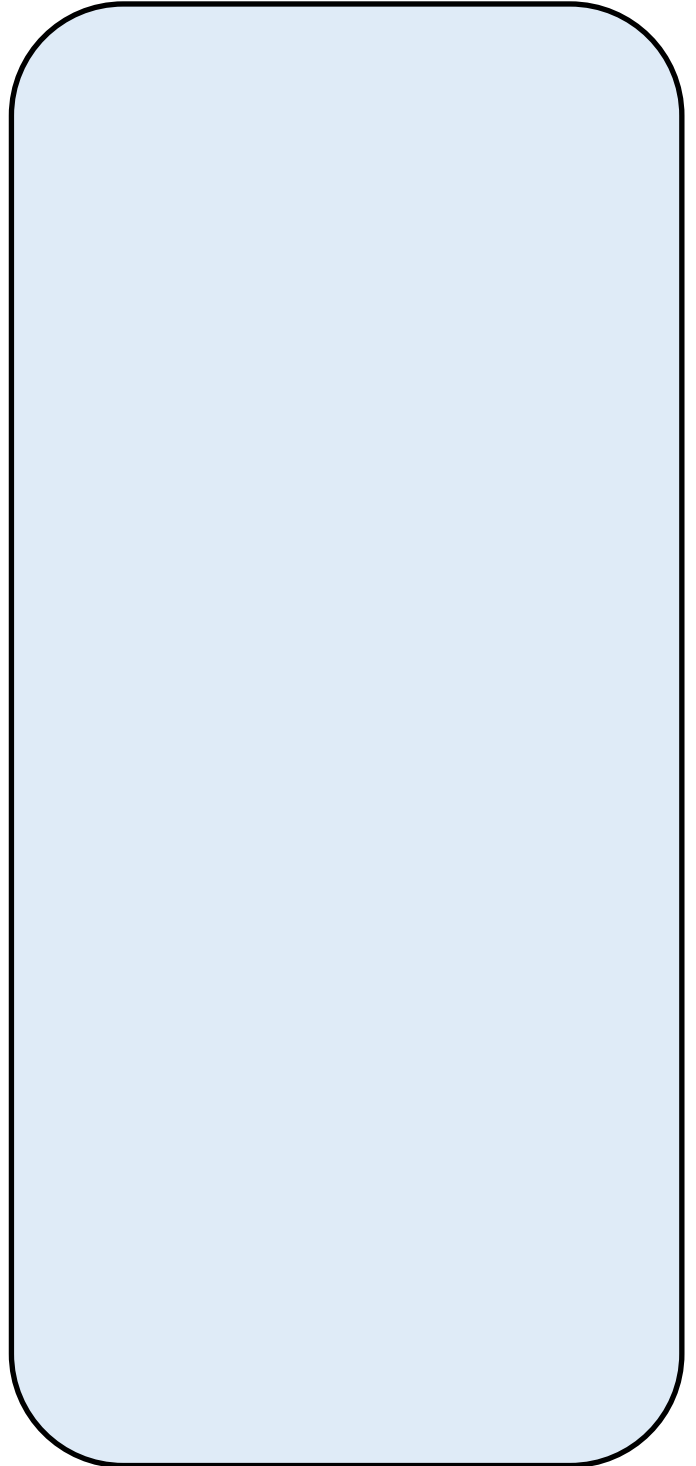


Brainstorming the Birthday!

Make a list of what would be included in your perfect birthday.



Make a list of what you think could be included in the perfect birthday for Sekiu. Remember to use your research to come up with ideas.



Draw the Perfect Birthday!

Use the list you created to draw the perfect birthday for Sekiu!

