



DO IT
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ABOUT THE OTTER

Otters live along rivers, streams and lakes. They are expert swimmers and well suited to life on the water with their webbed feet and dense fur to keep them warm. They can also close their ears and noses when underwater.



FOOD

Otters spend much of their time in water hunting for food. They feed mainly on fish and sometimes on water birds or frogs.

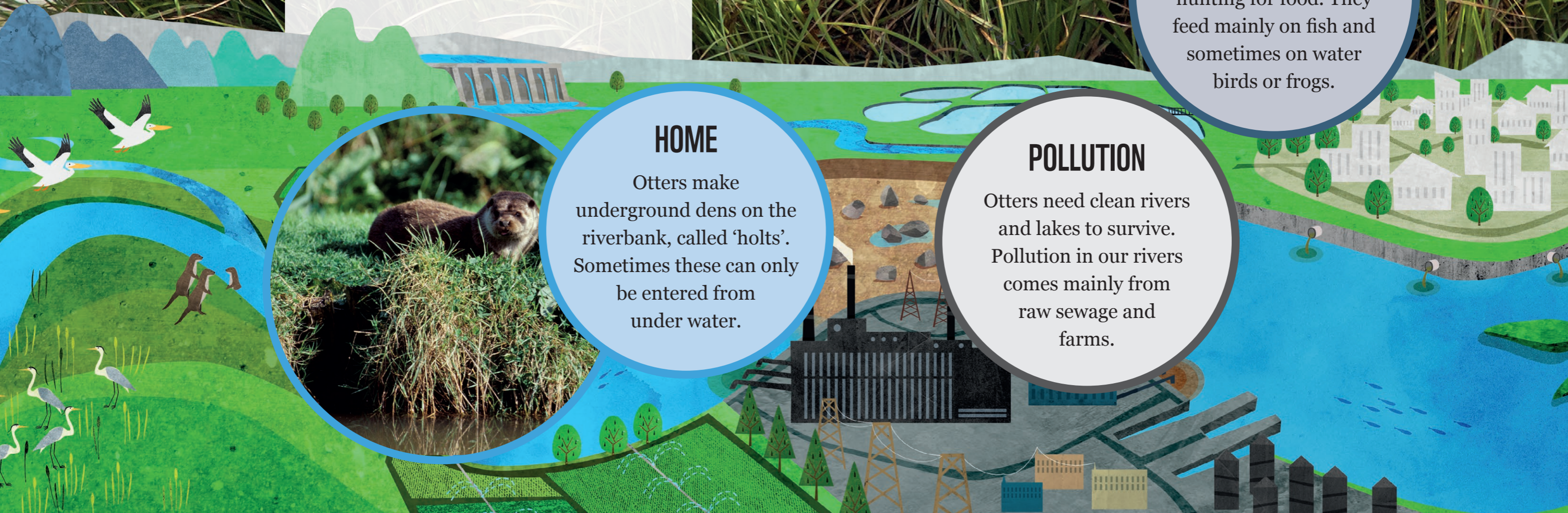
HOME

Otters make underground dens on the riverbank, called 'holts'. Sometimes these can only be entered from under water.



POLLUTION

Otters need clean rivers and lakes to survive. Pollution in our rivers comes mainly from raw sewage and farms.

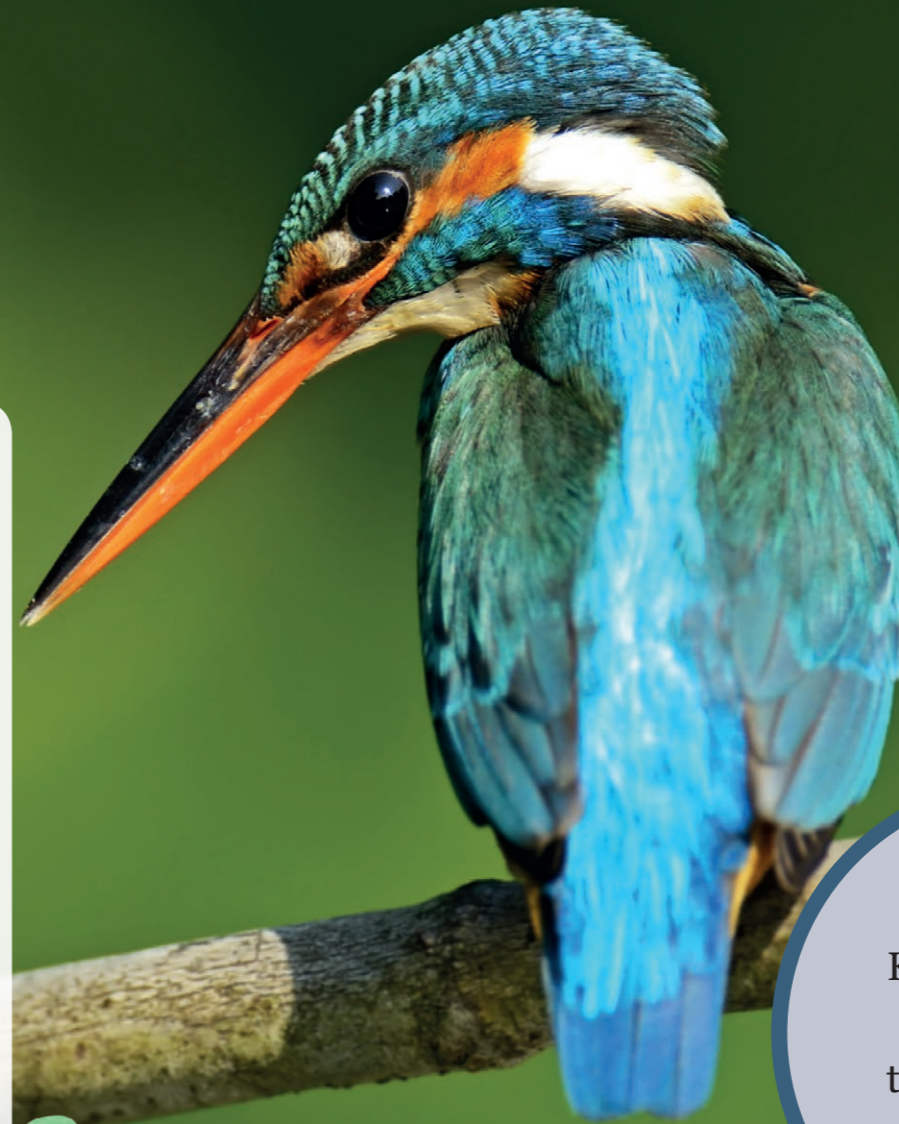




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ABOUT THE KINGFISHER

The kingfisher can be seen near rivers, lakes and canals. It's such a fast hunter that it can be hard to spot! A kingfisher can dive into the water and return with a fish in its long beak within two seconds.



HOME

Kingfishers nest in burrows on the sandy banks of streams and lakes.

FOOD

Kingfishers are experts at fishing! They wait patiently on a low branch over the water. When a kingfisher spots a fish, it dives beak first into the water, seizes its prey and carries it back to its perch.



POLLUTION

Kingfishers need clean streams and rivers to find food. Pollution in our rivers comes mainly from raw sewage and farms.





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ABOUT THE WATER VOLE

Water voles spend most of their time near their burrows on the grassy banks of rivers, streams and lakes. They are strong swimmers and, when disturbed, they quickly dive into the water. Plop!

HOME

Water voles dig burrows into the steep banks of waterways. These include a special place for their nest, a food store for the winter and an underwater entrance if they need to escape quickly.



DANGER

In many areas of the UK, too much water is being taken out of rivers to grow food, to make things in factories and to provide drinking water for people. Lower water levels make it harder for water voles to use the underwater entrances to their burrows and to escape from mink and weasels.

FOOD

Water voles feed mainly on grass, reeds and other plants.



POLLUTION

The decline of water voles is also linked to pollution. In some areas raw sewage is being pumped into rivers. Fertilisers and pesticides can seep into rivers from farms.

