



Julie Auslander	Sea Otters of Alaska – A Mock Feeding Study
San Francisco Unified	
San Francisco, CA	Science, Geography
2004	3rd Grade
Sea Otters of Alaska	40 minutes

Academic Standards addressed	Through this lesson, the students will practice scientific research techniques and utilize writing skills.
Abstract	The lesson will be in two parts. I will bring in a stuffed sea otter and will talk about its biology and habitat. The second part will break the students up into 3 groups to do a mock feeding dive study. One group will have a stopwatch to mark the time of the dive, the next group will record the prey that the otter brings up, and the 3 rd group will record the interval time between feeding dives.
Goal	To have the kids learn about sea otters and practice science in a fun and engaging manner.
Performance Indicators	The students should be able to practice the research techniques and answer questions about sea otters.
Materials	A stuffed sea otter, fake prey items, data sheets, two stopwatches.
Instructional Procedure	Introduction: I will talk about sea otters, including their habitat, biological adaptations, and behaviors. Activity: The students will divide into 3 groups to conduct the research and record the data of my mock feeding dives. Closure: I will ask the students questions about what they have learned and emphasize that science can be fun.
Assessment	The students will show understand by answering my closing questions.
Connection to Other Areas	This lesson could be used for Language Arts by having the students read about sea otters and write a report about them. It could also be used for a Math unit by having the students figure out averages from the data numbers.
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