

The otter swims very fast.  
It keeps its head above water.  
The otter's long and powerful tail  
**propels** it through the water.

The tail is like the rudder of a boat.

## Water life

Otters **inhabit** rivers, lakes, streams and the seashore. They can live in **freshwater** and in **saltwater**. If they live along the seashore they also need to reach a river or stream. They need freshwater to clean the salt off their fur.



Otters have five toes, claws and webbed feet. This helps them to swim.