



## **WILD DISCOVERIES**

### *Adaptability of Asian small-clawed otters*

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The initial goal of this study was to examine adaptability of the Asian small-clawed otter to adapt to their environment. However, otters were not as active as initially believed. Therefore, in this study we compared how often the otters were visible on exhibit. Out of the 359.5 minutes of total observations, they were only visible for a total of 21 minutes, of which 10 minutes was sleeping, locomotion 3.5 minutes, standing 3.5 minutes, swimming 1.5 minutes, laying down 1.5 minutes, and grooming 1 minute. Of the remaining 338.5 minutes of observations the otters were not visible out in the exhibit. This indicated that otters were not visible for 94.2% of the time. We concluded the otters were not a good study subject of our study, and interesting as otters are a very social species. This may be due to a small group ( $n = 2$ ) of otters at the Santa Fe Zoo.