



Name: Monterey Bay Aquarium

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Description

The Monterey Bay Aquarium is a non-profit, self-supporting institution. Our mission is to inspire conservation of the oceans.

The Aquarium's permanent exhibits and galleries highlight the colorful and complex array of marine life found on California's central coast. Special exhibitions feature marine life from around the world.



Our Newest Otter Pup Gets an A-Plus on Exhibit

Imagine that you're a 10-week-old sea otter pup on exhibit at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. What do you do all day, while hundreds of happy faces press against the window?

Actually, your job is pretty simple, and consists of two main things: eat and grow.

Fortunately, it turns out that rescued otter number 572, who went on exhibit February 14, excels in both of these areas. He's consuming shrimp, clams and squid, and now weighs almost 16 pounds. A small laceration—which we think came from a shark—is healing nicely.

Along the way, 572 has developed a great relationship with his companion, Joy, who happens to be an expert in all things otter pup. In her 13 years she's helped raise 16 young sea otters, many of whom we have returned to the wild, where they've gone on to raise pups of their own. This grande dame of sea otter moms must be doing something right.

In addition to eating and growing, the young pup is doing some extracurricular work in the form of ice chewing and vigorously playing with enrichment toys like ice, Frisbees and balls. When he's not jumping for joy, he's jumping on Joy. The two like to wrestle and groom each other, which is a good practice for any sea otter, since well-groomed fur helps ensure it can withstand Monterey Bay's chilly waters.

The pup will be with us for a while longer, but isn't able to go back to the wild. He'll find a permanent home later this year at another accredited public aquarium in the U.S.

You can see otter [on exhibit](#) now, or via our [live web cam](#)!





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