# MAMMAL BRAS D'OR

# OTTER

## LOUTRE **KIWNIK**

The otter has a long body with short legs, webbed feet, a strong neck, and a long flattened tail that helps propel them gracefully through water. Otters typically have very playful personalities and when they are not resting or eating, they can often be seen eagerly sliding down mud or snow banks.

#### **THREATS**

Otters face a number of threats posed by human activity. Otters are typically killed by cars, drowning in fish nets, trapping for fur, and destruction as pests in fishing areas.

### HISTORY

Otters have been hunted for their pelts from at least the 1700s, although it may have begun well before then. Darts, arrows, nets, and snares were used as early hunting methods but later, traps were set on land and guns used.

There has been a long history of otter pelts being worn around the world. In China it was standard for royalty to wear robes made from the pelts.





Sea otters hold hands when they sleep!

