Endangered Mammals

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian\_sea\_lion

# Australian sea lion

in Australian sea lions, as in many social mammals, mothers and their offspring can identify each other. Individual recognition produces mutual benefits by avoiding misdirected maternal care and therefore energy expenditure for mothers, and the risk of injury for young approaching unrelated, potentially dangerous, adult females. Individual recognition can be accomplished with a combination of several sensory modalities, including olfaction, vision, and audition. The use of olfactory cues as a close range recognition mechanism allows mothers to further confirm their pup’s identity.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hector%27s\_dolphin

# Hector's dolphin

Hector's dolphins live in groups of two to eight individuals. They feed at the ocean surface and sea floor, with their diets including [ahuru](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ahuru" \o "Ahuru), [yellow-eyed mullet](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yellow-eyed_mullet), [kahawai](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kahawai), [arrow squid](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nototodarus_sloanii), [herring](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herring), and [red cod](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red_cod).[[22]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hector%27s_dolphin#cite_note-DOCprotection-22)

Hector's dolphins are generalist feeders, with prey selection based on size rather than species. Typically, they feed on smaller prey which tend to measure under 10 cm. in length.[[23]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hector%27s_dolphin#cite_note-23) Stomach contents of dissected dolphins have included surface-schooling fish, midwater fish, and squid, and a wide variety of [benthic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benthic) species.[[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hector%27s_dolphin#cite_note-RichesWWF-24)

Natural predators of Hector’s dolphins include sharks and [killer whales](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Killer_whale) (orca).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea\_otter

# Sea otter

Unlike most other marine mammals, the sea otter has no [blubber](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blubber) and relies on its exceptionally thick [fur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fur) to keep warm.[[27]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea_otter#cite_note-nickerson21-27) With up to 150,000 strands of hair per square centimeter (nearly one million per sq in), its fur is the densest of any animal.[[28]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea_otter#cite_note-28) The fur consists of long, waterproof [guard hairs](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guard_hairs) and short underfur; the guard hairs keep the dense underfur layer dry. Cold water is kept completely away from the skin and heat loss is limited.

Sea otters spend much of their time grooming, which consists of cleaning the fur, untangling knots, removing loose fur, rubbing the fur to squeeze out water and introduce air, and blowing air into the fur. To casual observers, it appears as if the animals are scratching, but they are not known to have [lice](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lice) or other parasites in the fur.[[54]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea_otter#cite_note-54) When eating, sea otters roll in the water frequently, apparently to wash food scraps from their fur.

Although it can hold its breath for up to five minutes,[[32]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea_otter#cite_note-Silverstein_p13-32) its dives typically last about one minute and no more than four.[[25]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea_otter#cite_note-marinebio-25) It is the only marine animal capable of lifting and turning over rocks, which it often does with its front paws when searching for prey.[[55]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea_otter#cite_note-wp-55) The sea otter may also pluck [snails](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Snail) and other organisms from kelp and dig deep into underwater mud for [clams](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clam).[[55]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea_otter#cite_note-wp-55) It is the only marine mammal that catches [fish](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fish) with its forepaws rather than with its teeth.

the sea otter has a loose pouch of skin that extends across the chest. In this pouch (preferentially the left one), the animal stores collected food to bring to the surface. This pouch also holds a rock, unique to the otter, that is used to break open shellfish and clams.