



This is a charming story about a mother otter trying to put her baby otter to bed at night. Baby otter needs to say good night to all of his friends outside because he isn't tired yet. Mother and baby move through the water saying good night to sea lions, seagulls, underwater critters such as crabs, snails, turtles, sea horses, and many more. Mother sea otter snuggles in with her little one, wrapping him in seaweed to help make him cozy as the evening approaches. Together they watch the stars, and the baby otter goes to sleep.

[Good Night Little Sea Otter. by Janet Halfmann and Illustrations by Wish Williams - YouTube](#)

### Some tips for reading with toddlers

1. Find a comfortable place to sit together with the book
2. Be flexible in how you read the book – your child may be more into the pictures or not wanting to sit for too long.
  - a. Skip the words, talk about the pictures
  - b. Show your child things that are familiar to their world
  - c. Be silly in your voices and facial expressions – this is a great way to encourage mimicking/copying with your child
  - d. Skip pages – do the pages that your child finds interesting at first and slowly add to the story as your child engages more.
3. It is OK to never read a single word in a book and instead focus on the pictures, the familiar, and move at your child's pace/attention

### Activities you can do at home to support this book

1. **Putting babies to bed.** Help your child put their stuffies or babies to bed. Get a blanket, help wrap the baby in the blanket, getting the baby cozy. Sit quietly and say good night to things around the room – good night toy box, good night closet, good night window. You could do this in any room or even outside. Labeling and pointing to items and saying 'good night.'
2. **Art Activity** - Color baby sea otter and help put him to sleep. Together, color a baby sea otter, take green streamers, and attach them to the back of the picture. Then wrap the otter up, like his mother does with the seaweed in the book. Use words to describe what you are doing – coloring circles, lines, dot, dot—model taping the 'seaweed' on, wrapping the otter (spin, spin).



3. **Aquarium visits – via live cams!** [Live cams | Seattle Aquarium](#)  
[Live cams | Monterey Bay Aquarium](#)

Have fun! Emotions help us make memories.

Being silly, funny, and playing support your child's learning in ways that will make you smile and help them grow.



Example for art activity.

