

## National Geographic Kids Reader: Peek, Otter!

### Notes for parents: reading this book with your child

- Before you share this book with your child, look at the front cover and ask if they know what an otter is, or whether they have ever seen an otter. Look carefully at the picture together and talk about what familiar creature it looks like – noticing its whiskers and furry coat. Ask your child to think about where it lives and what it likes to do.
- The word *peek* may be unfamiliar in this context. Check that your children understand what *peek* means, and talk about why the otter peeks (*to stay hidden, to be stealthy, etc.*).
- Here are some ways you can help your child as they learn to read:
  - Read the book together and look carefully at the pictures of the otters.
  - Help with any unfamiliar words and practise reading the questions with expression.
  - Encourage children to sound out words. Even if they can't sound out the whole word, they may be able to sound out part of it, and this may help them read the word.
  - Encourage them to use the pictures to work out unfamiliar words and think about what word would make sense.
  - If your child gets stuck, read the book together, so that they don't lose their confidence.
  - Give them lots of praise and encouragement as they tackle new words.
- Ask your child to explain how otters look after their babies, and to compare this to how humans look after their babies.