

Did *you* know?

....Sea otters live in kelp forests.

???

Sea otters wrap kelp around their bodies to stay anchored when resting.



Many of the sea otter's food sources live in kelp forests:



sea urchin



crab



clam



snail



abalone



mussel

← *pneumatocyst (air sac)*

← *blade (similar to a leaf in a plant)*

Kelp is a type of algae, NOT a plant.

← *stipe (similar to a stem in a plant)*

← *holdfast (similar to roots in a plant)*

Kelp Parts - What do they do?

Holdfast: Anchors the kelp to the sea floor.

Stipe: This is the structural support of the kelp, transports nutrients to the holdfast below and the blades above.

Blade: Extends horizontally in the water to get sunlight for photosynthesis.

Pneumatocyst (air sac): Gas-filled sacs that keep the kelp afloat and toward the surface light for photosynthesis.

Support California's sea otters by making a voluntary contribution on Line 410 of your state income tax return.

Do it *fur* the otters, check it off! © CDFW Reproduction for educational purposes only.

