

ONE STOP AMI

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Jack Saves Stotter

An AMI Otter Rescue Friendship

A true-to-life educational coloring story about safe wildlife help



This book belongs to: _____

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Created by One Stop AMI for family education and to help protect and preserve Anna Maria Island.

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A Troubling Discovery

After school, Jack and his mum walked beside a tidal creek near Anna Maria Island. Jack noticed a baby river otter twisting beside the reeds. Discarded monofilament fishing line had tightened around one foreleg, and a hook had scratched the skin. Jack stopped, stayed back, and told his mum.



OTTER LEARNING: Loose fishing line can entangle wildlife. River otter pups are called kits or pups and normally depend on their mothers.

Stotter Clings to Jack

The frightened pup wriggled free of the reeds and pressed against Jack's shoe, clinging there as if it were a safe island. Jack wanted to scoop him up, but he knew touching wildlife could frighten it or worsen an injury. He stood completely still while his mum kept people and pets away and called for expert instructions.



OTTER LEARNING: An injured wild animal may approach when confused or afraid, but that does not make touching safe. A quiet adult call is the best first step.

Wildlife Inc. Responds

Jack's mum called Wildlife Inc. in Bradenton Beach. A licensed rehabilitator explained what to do and arranged safe transport. The professional used protective equipment and a ventilated carrier. Jack whispered, "Be brave, Stotter." The little otter finally loosened his paws from Jack's shoe.



OTTER LEARNING: Wildlife Inc.'s clinic treats injured and orphaned native wildlife. Its Bradenton Beach rehabilitation clinic is not open to the public.

Care, Food, and Quiet

At the clinic, trained carers removed the line and hook, cleaned Stotter's wound, controlled his pain, and watched him closely. They offered the correct otter diet only after an examination. Stotter rested in a quiet enclosure away from pets and crowds while his dense fur, whiskers, webbed feet, and strong tail helped reveal the animal he was born to be.



OTTER LEARNING: Never give injured wildlife food or water before a licensed rehabilitator advises it. The wrong food, amount, or method can cause serious harm.

A Safe but Sad New Home

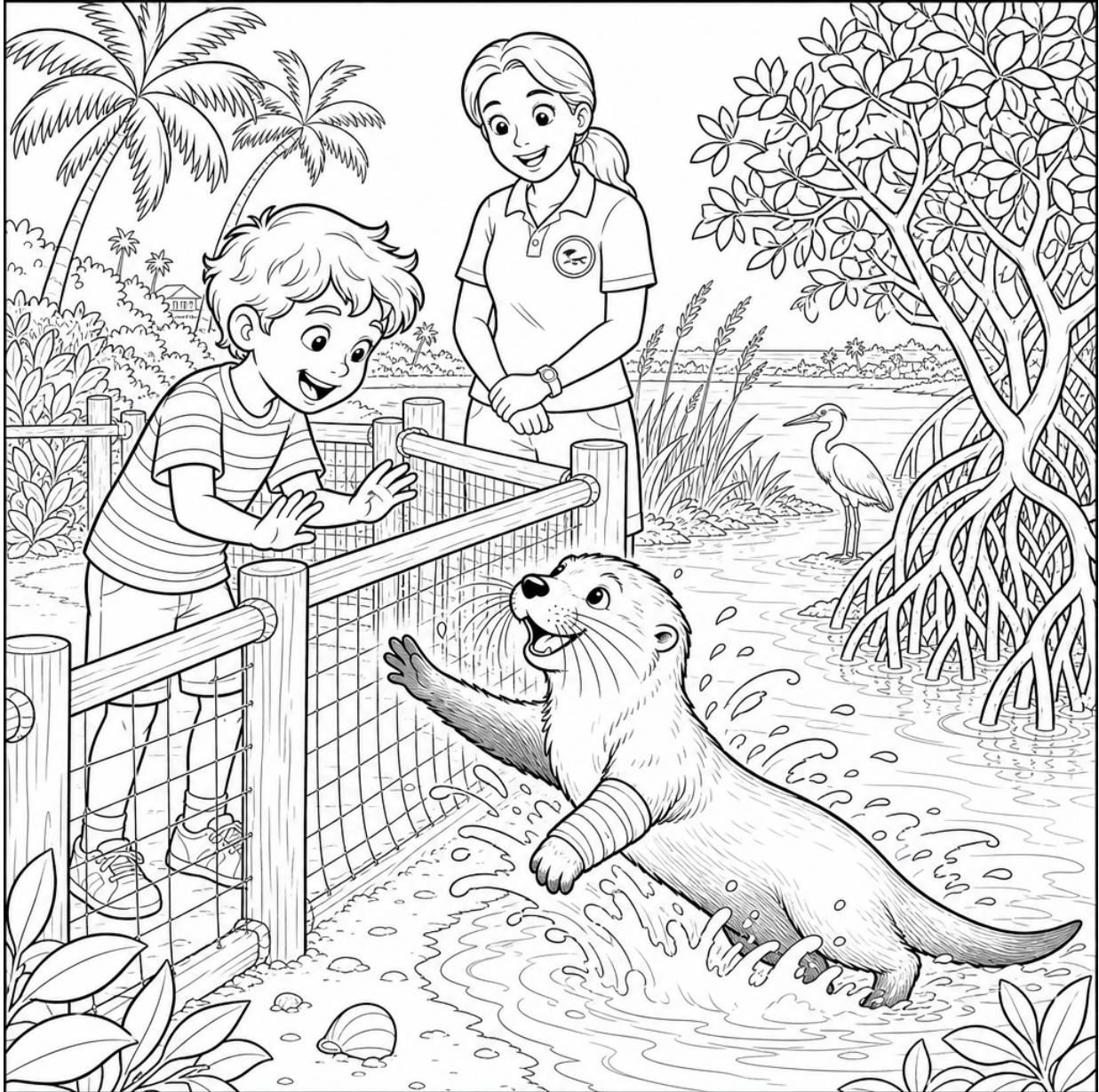
The line injury had permanently damaged nerves in Stotter's leg. Although he healed, experts decided he could not hunt, climb banks, and escape danger well enough to survive in the wild. He moved to a licensed educational sanctuary in Manatee County with pools, shade, logs, expert care, and other otters. At first he would not eat much or play. He missed the wild—and Jack.



OTTER LEARNING: Release is the goal of rehabilitation, but an animal that cannot survive independently may need permitted lifelong care. Animals do not become pets.

Jack Comes to Visit

One afternoon the sanctuary arranged a supervised visit in its public education area. Jack stayed behind the visitor barrier and spoke softly. Stotter lifted his head, chirped, and splashed into the pool. He ate a little fish and investigated a floating enrichment toy. Jack's familiar voice seemed to help him feel secure again.



OTTER LEARNING: Otters chirp, whistle, grunt, growl, and squeal. Enrichment encourages natural behaviors such as swimming, searching, exploring, and problem-solving.

Best Friends—and New Friends

With permission, Jack visited after school whenever the sanctuary schedule allowed. Soon Stotter ate well, played with the other otters, and formed new social bonds. When Jack was old enough, he completed training and became a supervised volunteer. He prepared enrichment and helped clean—never treating Stotter like a pet. For many years, Jack and Stotter remained best friends, connected by trust, patience, and one careful rescue.



OTTER LEARNING: Wildlife volunteers follow permits, training, hygiene rules, and staff directions. Friendship with wildlife means respecting the animal's needs and boundaries.

Stotter's Amazing Otter Facts

Color a circle beside the fact you want to teach someone.

- ① North American river otters are mammals in the weasel family.
- ② Florida river otters live near rivers, lakes, marshes, ponds, and coastal waterways, but not naturally in the Florida Keys.
- ③ Webbed feet, a streamlined body, and a strong tail make otters powerful swimmers.
- ④ Otters close their nostrils and ears while swimming underwater.
- ⑤ Sensitive whiskers help detect movement in dark or cloudy water.
- ⑥ Their natural diet can include fish, crayfish, frogs, insects, reptiles, and other small animals.
- ⑦ Two layers of dense fur trap insulating air and must be carefully groomed.
- ⑧ Otters communicate with sounds, scents, postures, and movement.
- ⑨ Young otters learn swimming, hunting, and survival skills as they grow.
- ⑩ Clean water, healthy shorelines, and properly discarded fishing gear protect otters.
- ⑪ A non-releasable animal needs licensed, species-appropriate lifelong care—not a household home.

Wildlife facts reflect general Florida and North American river otter biology.

Jack's Safe Rescue Steps

Helping begins with space, calm observation, and an adult.

1

STOP & STEP BACK

Do not chase, corner, touch, or pick up the animal.

2

TELL AN ADULT

Keep children, crowds, traffic, and pets away.

3

NOTICE FROM AFAR

Share the location and visible injury; do not risk getting closer for a photo.

4

CALL A REHABILITATOR

Follow the licensed professional's instructions exactly.

5

PREVENT THE NEXT INJURY

Collect loose line safely and use fishing-line recycling tubes where provided.

Important: Stotter clinging to Jack is part of the story—not an invitation to touch wildlife.

Jack & Stotter Word Search

Words may go across, down, diagonally, forward, or backward!

W	I	L	D	L	I	F	E	I	Q	L	C	J	F
T	P	X	E	W	Y	R	A	U	T	C	N	A	S
N	J	R	B	B	H	W	R	G	V	P	M	G	V
E	A	E	M	V	Y	I	E	K	B	L	Z	S	O
M	C	S	A	M	M	S	S	B	N	P	Z	L	L
H	K	C	N	Q	S	F	D	K	B	B	C	X	U
C	K	U	G	R	H	U	B	N	E	E	C	C	N
I	X	E	R	E	W	H	W	R	E	R	D	R	T
R	C	U	O	T	D	A	J	E	P	I	S	D	E
N	N	N	V	T	K	I	W	T	P	U	R	A	E
E	A	F	E	O	B	T	H	T	D	Q	T	F	R
Q	E	C	U	T	C	Z	S	O	N	F	T	X	D
H	X	E	P	S	C	Q	A	R	E	U	M	R	V
M	L	D	Y	P	M	I	P	A	I	R	T	I	U

Find these words:

JACK	STOTTER	OTTER
RESCUE	WHISKERS	WEBBED
SANCTUARY	FRIENDS	WILDLIFE
MANGROVE	VOLUNTEER	ENRICHMENT

Jack's Otter Rescue Quiz

Complete each sentence using one word from the bank.

WORD BANK

SPACE • ADULT • LINE • WHISKERS • WEBBED • LICENSED • RELEASE • ENRICHMENT

1. Give injured wildlife plenty of _____.
2. Tell an _____ when an animal may need help.
3. Discarded fishing _____ can entangle animals.
4. Sensitive _____ detect movement in water.
5. An otter's _____ feet help it swim.
6. Wildlife care must be provided by _____ professionals.
7. Returning a healthy animal to the wild is called _____.
8. Toys and activities that encourage natural behavior are called _____.

Bonus: Why did Jack stand still instead of picking Stotter up?

When an AMI Otter Needs Help

Watch from far away. Keep pets back. Ask an adult.

- Bleeding, fishing-line entanglement, a hook, or another obvious injury.
- Unable to stand, swim, or move normally.
- Collapsed, unresponsive, badly shaking, or repeatedly circling.
- Hit by a vehicle or attacked by a pet—even if wounds are hard to see.
- A pup that is cold, injured, covered with flies, or in immediate danger.

ASK AN ADULT TO CALL WILDLIFE INC.

941-778-6324

Phone hours listed by Wildlife Inc.: 8 AM–9 PM

Do not text, email, message, feed, give water, or drop off an animal without instructions.

The rehabilitation clinic is not open to the public. Jack's visitable sanctuary is fictional.

One Stop AMI is independent and is not affiliated with Wildlife Inc.

Official help information: wildlifeinc.org

OFFICIAL AMI OTTER RESCUE HERO AWARD

Jack & Stotter's Friendship Certificate

This certificate proudly belongs to

Write your name above

MY WILDLIFE FRIENDSHIP PROMISE

- ☐ I will give wild animals space and tell an adult when one needs help.
- ☐ I will never feed, touch, chase, corner, or keep a wild otter.
- ☐ I will keep fishing line and litter out of AMI waterways.
- ☐ I will follow the instructions of licensed wildlife professionals.
- ☐ I will remember that true friendship respects an animal's needs.

Date: _____ Hero signature: _____

Quiz: 1 SPACE • 2 ADULT • 3 LINE • 4 WHISKERS • 5 WEBBED • 6 LICENSED • 7 RELEASE • 8 ENRICHMENT

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SCAN TO VISIT ONE STOP AMI

Island guides, wildlife facts, family activities, and more coloring fun.



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or tap the website address in this PDF.

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Thank you for exploring Anna Maria Island with us.