MEET TONKA'S FRIENDS, THE OTTERS!

OTTER: "SKIPPER"

Birthdate: Feb. 9, 2017

Find him in Cat Kingdom

SAN FRANCISCO ZOO AND GARDENS

TONKA'S TROOP

See page 2 to make your own collectors card.
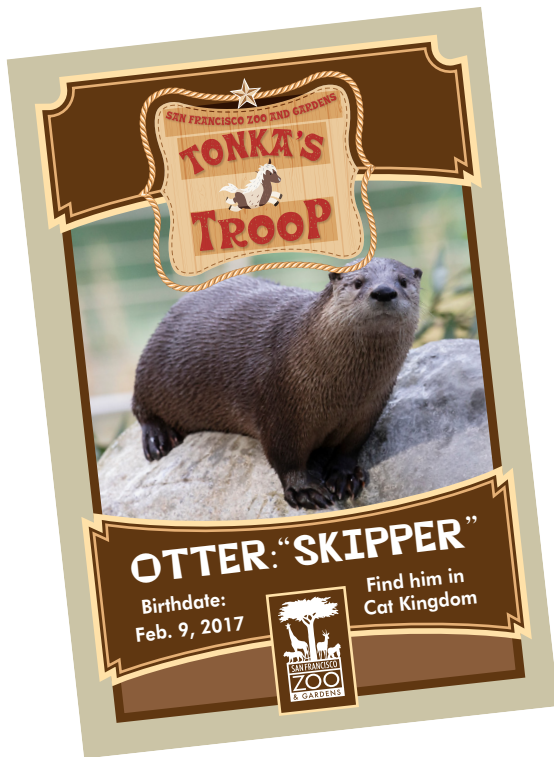
Trent and Skipper are our resident North American River Otters. Trent, our older otter, was wild born and brought to SF Zoo in 2007 and we estimate that he is about 20-years-old. He is an outstanding hunter of both fish and birds and loves to play with snow and ice blocks. Skipper, the younger one, at 5-years-old, keeps Trent young. He is full of energy and plays with everything at least once, likes to hide things in his bed and loves all food.

Our animal care team work with both Trent and Skipper training them for voluntary hand injections and they even know the word "up." Skipper is currently working on standing still on a station on the beach of his exhibit. He is young and active, so holding still is hard for him, but with practice, he will be able to do it!

Despite their charming, playful appearance, otters are aggressive hunters but also opportunistic, eating whatever is available.

FUN FACT

River otters can stay underwater for six to eight minutes, a significant amount of time for an air-breathing mammal! The only continents without otters are Australia and Antarctica.

ADVICE FROM AN OTTER

"Take time to play"
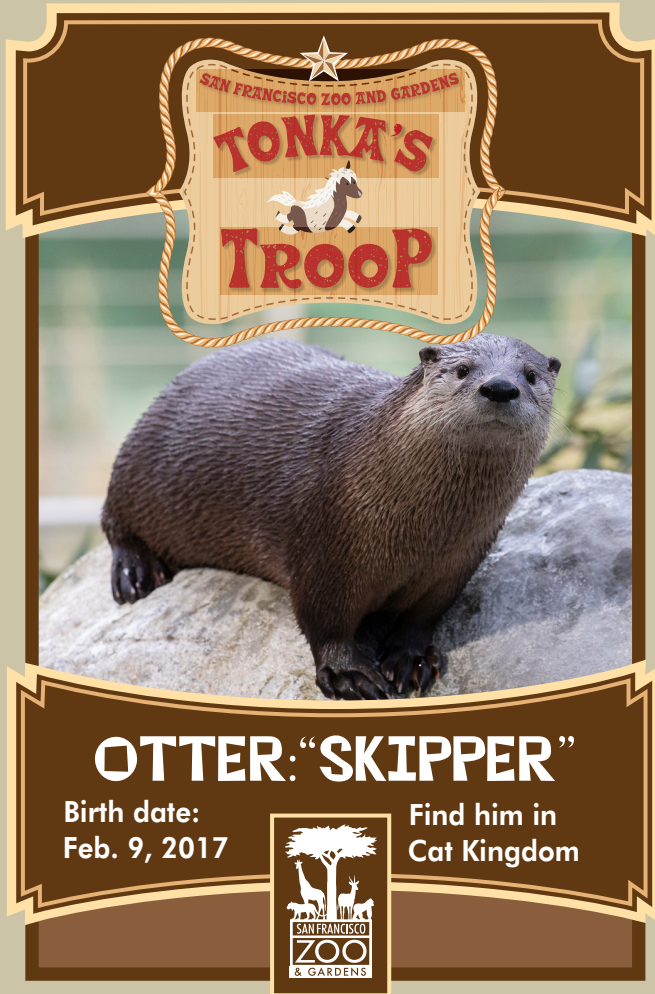"Be spontaneous"
"Be otterly amazing"

QUICK CHUCKLES

What do you call an otter that just got glasses?

Answer: A see otter.

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COLLECT ALL OF TONKA'S TROOP COLLECTOR CARDS

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NORTH AMERICAN RIVER OTTER
Lutra canadensis

SIZE: Can weigh anywhere from 11 to 30 lbs.

AVG. LIFE SPAN: 13 years in the wild, up to 25 years under human care

BIRTHDAY: February 9, 2017

DIET: Crayfish, frogs, fish, turtles, eggs, small rodents and water birds

HABITAT: Rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, wetlands, coastal shorelines and marshes in North America

LOCATION: Cat Kingdom, across from Penguin Island

IUCN **STATUS THE WILD:** Least concern

DID YOU KNOW?

Skipper is an outstanding problem solver! He is very good at taking things apart and loves breaking things.

FOLD

CUT AROUND THE BLACK LINE AND THEN FOLD IN HALF