BOOK TITLE: A Lot of Otters  
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SUMMARY OF BOOK: Mother Moon is looking for her child. As she calls for him, her tears turn into stars that fall into the sea and are rescued, along with her little one, by a lot of otters. These playful animals frolic in the starlight until other Moon looks down and sees them all safe.

*BEFORE READING (Ask questions and use what the child already knows to add to the discussion, assisting the child in understanding and enjoying the book):

1. Looking at the picture on the cover, what does the child think the story will be about?
2. Where do otters live, what do they do?
3. Is the child a girl or a boy? How do you think the child feels?
4. Are these otters like the otters you know? Do these seem special?

DURING READING: (ask these questions)

1. Consider first looking through the book at the pictures only, listening for ideas from your child about what is happening.
2. Start at the title page: where is the child going? What happens?
3. Do the otters help the child? What does the otter do with the book?
4. Why is Mother Moon crying?
5. What are the otters eating? Is that what real otters eat?
6. Is this like having a snack and taking a bath before bedtime?
7. How does everyone feel -- at various times in the book, at the end?

AFTER READING (activity to extend book experience):

1. Create a space with a box or pillows and a blanket and books to “read and drift away.”
2. Where could you go to see a real sea otter?
3. This Web site has fun sea otter activities and games (some in Spanish):

* This activity created by students at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

For additional activities, visit www.AlaskImaginationLibrary.org