# Draw a Floating Sea Otter: Pose, Paws, and Fur Texture

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

Using the construction steps, draw a floating sea otter with both forepaws resting on its belly. Body length 2 units, head diameter 0.5 units. Add fur strokes following the convention.

Answer: A horizontal body oval 2 units by 1 unit, head oval 0.5 units at the left slightly above midline, short neck, two hind flipper triangles at the right angling down 20 degrees, and two small forepaw ovals on the belly within the body outline. Fur strokes flow head to tail on the back, radiate from the nose on the head, and point toward fingers on the paws.

Reason: The head is one-quarter of body length, which is within the adult range. Paws are inside the silhouette and balanced. Fur direction follows the convention.

Check: Measure head length against body length (0.5 vs 2.0 = 0.25). Check that both paws are within the body oval and that no fur strokes cross at sharp angles.

Task 2

Draw a floating sea otter with one forepaw raised toward its face. Use a body length of 3 units and a head diameter of 0.6 units. Add a fur texture strip beside the otter showing five short strokes in the correct direction for the back.

Answer: Body oval 3 units by 1.5 units, head oval 0.6 units at the left, upper forepaw near the face crossing the chest line, lower forepaw on the belly, hind flippers at the right angling down 25 degrees. The texture strip shows five strokes flowing from left to right, matching head-to-tail direction on the back.

Reason: Head is one-fifth of body length, a valid adult proportion. The raised paw is near the face but within the silhouette. The texture strip demonstrates the back direction convention.

Check: Verify head-to-body ratio (0.6/3.0 = 0.2). Check that the raised paw does not extend beyond the head outline. Confirm the five strokes in the strip all point in the same direction.

# Draw a Floating Sea Otter: Pose, Paws, and Fur Texture

Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

Draw a floating sea otter with a pup-like proportion: head diameter 0.8 units and body length 2 units. Place both forepaws near the chest. Add fur strokes on the head radiating from the nose.

Answer: Body oval 2 units by 1 unit, head oval 0.8 units at the left, short neck, forepaws near chest within the body outline, hind flippers at the right. Head fur strokes radiate outward from the nose in all directions.

Reason: Head is 0.4 of body length, which is larger than adult but acceptable as an intentional pup proportion. Paws are balanced and inside the silhouette. Head fur follows the radial convention.

Check: Measure head-to-body ratio (0.8/2.0 = 0.4) and note it as pup-like. Check that head strokes radiate from the nose and do not cross at sharp angles.

Task 4

Draw a floating sea otter with hind flippers angled down 30 degrees. Body length 2.5 units, head diameter 0.5 units. Add a fur texture strip showing three strokes on a forepaw pointing toward the fingers.

Answer: Body oval 2.5 units by 1.25 units, head oval 0.5 units at the left, forepaws near chest, hind flippers at the right angled down 30 degrees. The texture strip shows three short strokes on a paw shape, all pointing toward the finger bumps.

Reason: Head is one-fifth of body length. Hind flipper angle is within the 20 to 30 degree range. Paw strokes follow the convention of pointing toward fingers.

Check: Verify head-to-body ratio (0.5/2.5 = 0.2). Use a protractor or estimate the flipper angle against horizontal. Confirm the three paw strokes point toward the finger bumps.

# Draw a Floating Sea Otter: Pose, Paws, and Fur Texture

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Pose: body horizontal, head lifted, hind flippers trailing; meets the floating-on-back convention.
- [ ] Proportions: head length between one-fifth and one-quarter of body length, or intentional pup proportion noted.
- [ ] Paw placement: forepaws near chest, within body silhouette, balanced across the chest line.
- [ ] Fur direction: strokes follow the defined convention on back, head, and paws; valid alternatives allowed if direction is consistent.
- [ ] Texture: layered strokes with varied density and small gaps; no random scribble.
- [ ] Outline: clear head and body contour, small ear bump, optional whiskers.

Reflection: What did you check, what did you change, and what will you try next?