Beavers Build Ponds

Practice finding important ideas and details in a science text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.2.10 "By the end of year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, in the grades 2-3 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one sentence in each paragraph that tells an important idea. Circle one word or phrase near it that helps explain the idea, so you can track big ideas and details.

A Beaver's Busy Work

1. Beavers are animals that live near ponds, lakes, and streams. They use their strong teeth to cut small trees and branches. A beaver carries the wood to water, where it can build a home or a dam.

2. A dam is a wall of wood, mud, and stones. It slows moving water. Water collects behind the dam and may form a pond. The pond gives beavers a safer place to swim and reach their lodge.

3. Beaver dams can also help other living things. Fish, frogs, and water birds may use the pond for food or shelter. The wet ground around a pond can help plants grow. A beaver's work changes its habitat.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the main idea of the second paragraph?

2. How do the details in the first paragraph explain how beavers get wood for building?

3. What is one way a beaver's work affects other living things? Use a detail from the passage.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose one paragraph and write a heading for it. Then write two sentences that tell the paragraph's important information in your own words.

ANSWER KEY

Beavers Build Ponds

GRADE 2 · RI.2.10

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one sentence in each paragraph that tells an important idea. Circle one word or phrase near it that helps explain the idea, so you can track big ideas and details. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the main idea of the second paragraph?	**A beaver dam slows water and can make a pond that helps beavers.**
2	How do the details in the first paragraph explain how beavers get wood for building?	**Beavers use strong teeth to cut trees and branches, then carry the wood to the water.**
3	What is one way a beaver's work affects other living things? Use a detail from the passage.	**A beaver pond can give fish, frogs, or water birds food or shelter, or the wet ground can help plants grow.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Ponds Help Living Things A beaver pond can give fish, frogs, and water birds places to find food or shelter. Plants may grow in the wet ground near the pond.

Accept accurate paraphrases supported by the passage. For the open task, accept a fitting heading and two sentences that include the paragraph's main idea and at least one accurate detail.