Beaver Word Detectives

Use clues in an informational text to learn new words.

2.L.V.1.a "Acquire general, academic, and specialized vocabulary words and phrases through grade-level texts and content. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle these four vocabulary words: lodge, dam, observe, and habitat. Underline the words that help explain each word.

Beavers Build Homes

1. Beavers are busy animals that live near ponds and streams. They use their wide, flat tails to swim and warn others of danger. A beaver's home is called a lodge, a shelter built from sticks and mud.

2. A beaver may build a dam across moving water. A dam is a wall that slows water and can make a pond. In the pond, the beaver can find food and stay safer from some predators.

3. Scientists observe beavers to learn how animals change habitats. Observe means to watch closely and notice details. A habitat is a place where a plant or animal lives. Beaver dams can create wet places for frogs, fish, and birds.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does the word lodge mean in the first paragraph?

2. What is a dam?

3. The text says scientists observe beavers. What does observe mean?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose an animal that is not named in the passage. Write two sentences using one special science word about that animal, and include clues that tell what the word means.

ANSWER KEY

Beaver Word Detectives

GRADE 2 · 2.L.V.1.a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle these four vocabulary words: lodge, dam, observe, and habitat. Underline the words that help explain each word. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does the word lodge mean in the first paragraph?	**A shelter built from sticks and mud.**
2	What is a dam?	**A wall that slows water and can make a pond.**
3	The text says scientists observe beavers. What does observe mean?	**To watch closely and notice details.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A turtle has a shell, a hard covering that protects its body. It pulls its head inside the shell when it feels danger.

Accept answers that use a science word accurately and give a clear meaning clue in the two sentences. The animal must not be beaver, frog, fish, or bird.