Beaver Detail Detectives

Find the big idea and supporting details in each paragraph.

2.T.T.2.a "Identify and describe techniques used to craft expository texts, including main idea and key supporting details within specific paragraphs. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that tells the main idea in each paragraph, then circle two details in that paragraph that support it.

Busy Beavers

1. Beavers are busy animals that build homes in ponds and streams. Their homes are called lodges. A lodge can have sticks, mud, and grass. The water around a lodge helps keep beavers safer from many animals.

2. Beavers also build dams across moving water. A dam is a wall of sticks, stones, and mud. It slows the water and can make a pond. The pond gives beavers a deep place to swim and find food.

3. Beavers have body parts that help them work in water. Their wide, flat tails help them steer as they swim. Webbed back feet push water behind them. Thick fur helps keep their bodies warm in cold water.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

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

2. Write two details from the second paragraph that support the main idea.

3. How do the details in the third paragraph support its main idea?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence informational paragraph about an animal. State the main idea in the first sentence, then add two supporting details in the next two sentences.

ANSWER KEY

Beaver Detail Detectives

GRADE 2 · 2.T.T.2.a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that tells the main idea in each paragraph, then circle two details in that paragraph that support it. 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 first paragraph?	**Beavers build homes in ponds and streams.**
2	Write two details from the second paragraph that support the main idea.	**A dam is made of sticks, stones, and mud. It slows water and can make a pond. The pond gives beavers a place to swim and find food. Accept any two.**
3	How do the details in the third paragraph support its main idea?	**They tell how a beaver's tail, webbed feet, and fur help it work and stay warm in water.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Penguins have body parts that help them swim. Their flippers push them through the water. Their webbed feet help them steer.

Accept main ideas that tell the big point of the paragraph and details that match that point. For the student paragraph, accept any accurate animal topic with one clear main-idea sentence and two related supporting details.