Pond Builder Clues

Use marks and questions to build meaning as you read.

3.P.EICC.3 "Comprehension Strategies: Engage with a range of complex texts for a variety of tasks and purposes, accessing and using strategies for comprehension* before, during, and after reading as part of the meaning-making process."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB As you read, underline three details that explain how a dam or pond helps a beaver. Circle the clue that tells why a lodge is hard for land animals to reach.

The Pond Builders

1. At dusk, a beaver swims through a shallow stream carrying a branch. It places the branch against other sticks, then pats mud around it. The growing pile is called a dam. A dam slows the water. Behind it, water spreads into a pond that is deeper than the stream. The pond gives the beaver a safer place to live.

2. The pond changes more than the beaver's home. Calm water can give fish, frogs, and ducks places to rest or find food. Near the pond, the beaver may build a lodge from branches and mud. Its entrance is under water, so many land animals cannot easily reach it. In winter, the beaver stays inside the lodge and eats branches stored nearby.

3. Beavers do not build dams in every stream. They usually choose places where moving water can be blocked with wood and mud. By making a pond, a beaver creates water deep enough for swimming and for hiding its lodge entrance. The dam, pond, and lodge work together. These parts help the beaver find food, stay safer, and live through cold weather.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Look at what you underlined. What is one detail that shows how a dam helps a beaver?

2. Why did you circle the clue about the lodge entrance being under water?

3. After reading all three paragraphs, what is the big idea of the passage?

4. Write one question you could ask while reading paragraph 3 to check your understanding. Then answer your question with details from the paragraph.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you will read an article titled "How Monarch Butterflies Travel." Write one question you would ask before reading, name one kind of detail you would underline while reading, and write one sentence you could say after reading to tell the article's big idea.

ANSWER KEY

Pond Builder Clues

GRADE 3 · 3.P.EICC.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

As you read, underline three details that explain how a dam or pond helps a beaver. Circle the clue that tells why a lodge is hard for land animals to reach. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Look at what you underlined. What is one detail that shows how a dam helps a beaver?	**A dam slows water, so water spreads into a deeper pond that gives the beaver a safer place to live.**
2	Why did you circle the clue about the lodge entrance being under water?	**It shows that the lodge is safer because many land animals cannot easily reach the entrance.**
3	After reading all three paragraphs, what is the big idea of the passage?	**Beavers use dams, ponds, and lodges together to make a safer home and survive.**
4	Write one question you could ask while reading paragraph 3 to check your understanding. Then answer your question with details from the paragraph.	**Example: How do the dam, pond, and lodge work together? The dam makes a pond with deep water, and the deep water helps hide the lodge entrance.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Before reading, I would ask, "Where do monarch butterflies go when seasons change?" While reading, I would underline details about the route monarchs follow. After reading, I would say, "Monarch butterflies migrate to find places with weather and food that help them survive."

Accept any accurate underlined detail and reasonable inference supported by the passage. For question 4 and Your Turn, accept different questions or big ideas when the response shows a before, during, or after reading strategy.