# Beaver Idea Bridges

See how connecting words make information flow.

**3.T.SS.1.c** "Use conjunctions and transition words or phrases, such as although and since, to add cohesion and link ideas and information. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline each conjunction or transition word or phrase that links ideas. Then draw a small line to the ideas each word or phrase connects.

### Beavers Build Homes

1. Beavers are busy builders. Since they need deep water to stay safe, they build dams across small streams. A dam can slow the water and make a pond. Beavers use branches, mud, and stones, so the dam holds back water. Although a dam looks simple, it can change the home for many animals living there.

2. A beaver's pond can help some neighbors. Fish may find calmer water in the pond. Frogs can lay eggs near its edge, and ducks may rest there. However, a dam may flood some land. People sometimes move a dam because water can cover a path or a field. When this happens, workers choose a safe way to help the water flow.

3. Beavers keep working in winter, but they do not go outside much. Their pond may freeze on top. They swim under the ice and eat branches stored near their home. Also, deep water gives them space to move. Although winter is cold, the pond helps beavers live safely until spring returns to the forest again.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which word in paragraph 1 links the reason beavers need deep water to their building dams?

2. What two ideas does Although link in the last sentence of paragraph 3?

3. Which transition word in paragraph 2 shows a contrast before the passage tells about flooding?

4. Which conjunction in paragraph 1 links the materials beavers use to the result of the dam holding back water?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three sentences about how an animal stays safe or finds food. Use at least two linking words or phrases, including one conjunction and one transition word or phrase.

**ANSWER KEY**

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**GRADE 3 · 3.T.SS.1.c**

## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each conjunction or transition word or phrase that links ideas. Then draw a small line to the ideas each word or phrase connects. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Which word in paragraph 1 links the reason beavers need deep water to their building dams? | **Since** |
| 2 | What two ideas does Although link in the last sentence of paragraph 3? | **Winter is cold, and the pond helps beavers live safely until spring.** |
| 3 | Which transition word in paragraph 2 shows a contrast before the passage tells about flooding? | **However** |
| 4 | Which conjunction in paragraph 1 links the materials beavers use to the result of the dam holding back water? | **so** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Since sea otters have thick fur, they can stay warm in chilly ocean water. They also wrap in kelp, so moving water does not carry them away. Although waves can be strong, kelp helps sea otters rest.

Accept accurate responses that use three sentences and at least two words or phrases that clearly link ideas. Accept different conjunctions or transitions when the connection between ideas makes sense.