Beavers Build Change

Compare two texts about a creek-shaping animal.

3.T.T.2.c "Integrate and explain information from two texts on the same topic in relationship to important points and key details. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the most important point in each text. Circle one detail in Text 1 and number two details in Text 2 that help you explain how beaver dams change a creek.

Beaver Dams at Work

1. Text 1: A park ranger watched a beaver family on Pine Creek. The beavers carried branches and packed mud between them to make a dam. After the dam was built, the rushing creek spread into a quiet pond. The ranger saw ducks floating there and frogs calling near the edge. She also noticed that the pond gave the beavers a safer place to swim to their lodge.

2. Text 2: A science article explains that beaver dams slow the water in a creek. When water moves slowly, bits of soil and sand can settle to the bottom instead of washing away. The pond behind a dam can also fill a wide area beside the creek. This wet area gives water-loving plants a place to grow, creating a wetland.

3. Text 2, continued: The article adds that wetlands made by beavers can help many animals. Fish may find calmer water, and insects can live among the plants. Birds and other animals may use the pond for food or shelter. The ranger's notes show what happened at one creek, while the article explains why the pond changed the land and how that change can help living things.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What important idea do both texts share about a beaver dam? Use one detail from each text in your answer.

2. How does Text 2 add information to the ranger's notes in Text 1?

3. Text 1 names ducks and frogs, while Text 2 names fish, insects, and birds. What do these details together show about the pond?

4. Why is it useful to read both texts instead of only the ranger's notes?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence sign for a park trail about beaver dams. Include one detail from Text 1 and one detail from Text 2, then explain how the details fit together to show why a dam matters.

ANSWER KEY

Beavers Build Change

GRADE 3 · 3.T.T.2.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the most important point in each text. Circle one detail in Text 1 and number two details in Text 2 that help you explain how beaver dams change a creek. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What important idea do both texts share about a beaver dam? Use one detail from each text in your answer.	**Both texts show that a beaver dam changes a fast-moving creek into slower, calmer water. Text 1 says the rushing creek became a quiet pond, and Text 2 says dams slow creek water.**
2	How does Text 2 add information to the ranger's notes in Text 1?	**Text 1 describes what the ranger saw at Pine Creek. Text 2 explains that slow water lets soil and sand settle and can create a wetland where plants grow.**
3	Text 1 names ducks and frogs, while Text 2 names fish, insects, and birds. What do these details together show about the pond?	**They show that the pond and wetland can provide a habitat with food, shelter, or calmer water for many kinds of animals.**
4	Why is it useful to read both texts instead of only the ranger's notes?	**The ranger's notes give an example of what happened at one creek, while the science article explains why dams change water and land and how the changes can help living things.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At Pine Creek, a ranger saw a rushing creek turn into a quiet pond after beavers built a dam. Science information says slow water lets soil and sand settle, and wetland plants can grow beside the creek. Together, these details show that a beaver dam changes both the water and the land around it.

Accept accurate paraphrases that connect information from both texts. For the open task, check for exactly three sentences, a detail from each text, and an explanation of the relationship between the details.