A Beaver Builds

Read for clues about how one dam changes a place.

RI.2.10 "Routinely and flexibly develop and apply background knowledge along with a variety of comprehension strategies to understand and analyze grade-appropriate, complex informational text independently."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one clue in each paragraph that shows what happens after the dam is built. Number your clues 1, 2, and 3 in the order the changes happen.

A Dam Changes a Stream

1. A beaver uses branches, mud, and stones to build a dam across a stream. Water moving downstream slows at the dam. It spreads out behind the wall of branches. Soon, a pond covers ground that was once dry.

2. The new pond changes the neighborhood. Water plants can grow where there was dry grass. Frogs lay eggs in the water, and fish may swim into the pond from the stream. Some animals find food and shelter there.

3. The beaver may build a home called a lodge in the pond. Its entrance is under the water, which makes it harder for some land animals to get inside. One small builder has changed a place for many living things.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the dam make it possible for frogs to lay eggs in this place? Use clues from two paragraphs.

2. Why might an entrance under water help keep the beaver safe? Use a clue from the text.

3. The last sentence says the beaver changed the place for many living things. What are two changes described in the text?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine the dam breaks. Write two sentences predicting what might happen to the pond and to one living thing there. Use clues from the passage to explain your prediction.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one clue in each paragraph that shows what happens after the dam is built. Number your clues 1, 2, and 3 in the order the changes happen. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the dam make it possible for frogs to lay eggs in this place? Use clues from two paragraphs.	**The dam slows the stream and makes a pond on ground that was dry. Frogs can lay eggs in the pond water.**
2	Why might an entrance under water help keep the beaver safe? Use a clue from the text.	**The under-water entrance makes it harder for some land animals to get inside the lodge.**
3	The last sentence says the beaver changed the place for many living things. What are two changes described in the text?	**Water plants can grow where grass grew before, and frogs can lay eggs in the new pond.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

If the dam broke, water might flow away and the pond could shrink. Frogs might have less water for their eggs because the dam made the pond where they lay them.

Accept other text-supported changes for the questions. For Your Turn, accept a reasonable prediction about the pond and a living thing if the student connects it to passage clues.