A Pond Appears

Find details that point to the central idea.

RI.2.2 "Identify implicit and explicit information from an informational text to determine the central idea of a text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details that show how beavers change a stream. Circle two details that show how other animals use the pond.

The Pond Beavers Make

1. A beaver uses branches and mud to build a dam across a stream. The dam slows the water. Water spreads behind it and makes a pond. The beaver can swim there and build a safe home.

2. The new pond gives other animals places to live. Frogs lay eggs in the water. Ducks rest on the pond. Small fish hide near plants at its edge. Many animals use the water in different ways.

3. A pond can help even after the beavers leave. The dam may stay for years, and water may still fill the pond. New plants can grow along its edge. One beaver family can change a stream for many living things.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the central idea of the whole text? Tell how beavers and other living things are connected.

2. Why does the dam matter for frogs? Use details from the text.

3. How do plants help small fish? What words in the text helped you figure it out?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A student says, "This text is only about where beavers live." Write two sentences explaining why that idea is too small. Include one detail about another animal and one detail about what may happen after the beavers leave.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details that show how beavers change a stream. Circle two details that show how other animals use the pond. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the central idea of the whole text? Tell how beavers and other living things are connected.	**Beavers change a stream by making a pond that helps them and other living things.**
2	Why does the dam matter for frogs? Use details from the text.	**The dam slows the water and makes a pond where frogs can lay eggs.**
3	How do plants help small fish? What words in the text helped you figure it out?	**Plants give small fish a place to hide. The text says small fish hide near plants.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Ducks rest on the pond, so it helps more than beavers. After the beavers leave, new plants can grow along its edge.

Accept central ideas that connect the beavers' dam to the pond and its use by other living things. For the open task, look for two sentences with both requested details.