A Dam Changes Things

Read how a stream and its animals affect one another.

L.2.3A "Students will demonstrate an understanding of the interdependence of living things and the environment in which they live. Evaluate and communicate findings from informational text or other media to describe how animals change and respond..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline what happens to the stream, circle how the beaver responds, and write 1 and 2 beside two changes caused by the dam.

When a Beaver Builds

1. On a hot summer day, a stream runs low. A beaver needs deep water near its home to stay safe. It drags sticks and mud to a narrow place in the stream. There, it builds a dam.

2. The dam holds back water and makes a pond. Water spreads over land by the stream, so some grass is covered. This is a big change to the area. The beaver made it while finding a safer place to live.

3. Fish that need moving water may swim to another part of the stream. Frogs lay eggs in the quiet pond water. The low stream changed what the beaver did, and the beaver's dam changed where other animals live.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the beaver respond when the stream runs low? Why does it do this?

2. What big change does the dam make to the land by the stream?

3. How do frogs use the change made by the beaver?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a storm breaks the dam and the pond gets smaller. Write two sentences telling how frogs might respond and use a fact from the passage to explain why.

ANSWER KEY

A Dam Changes Things

GRADE 2 · L.2.3A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline what happens to the stream, circle how the beaver responds, and write 1 and 2 beside two changes caused by the dam. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the beaver respond when the stream runs low? Why does it do this?	**It builds a dam to make deeper water near its home, where it can stay safe.**
2	What big change does the dam make to the land by the stream?	**The dam holds back water. The water spreads over the land and covers some grass.**
3	How do frogs use the change made by the beaver?	**Frogs lay their eggs in the quiet pond water.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The frogs might move to another quiet pond to lay their eggs. The passage says frogs lay eggs in the quiet water made by the dam.

Accept a reasonable prediction about the frogs that is supported by the passage. For the marking job, students may number any two changes caused by the dam, such as the pond forming, grass being covered, fish moving, or frogs laying eggs there.