

Busy Beaver Builders

Find the main topic and the details that support it.

2R2 "Identify a main topic or central idea and retell key details in a text; summarize portions of a text.(RI&RL)"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that tells the main topic of the whole text. Then number one key detail in each paragraph that helps explain the topic.

How Beavers Live

- ① Beavers are busy animals that change the places where they live. They use their strong teeth to cut small trees and branches. Then they carry the wood to a stream, where they build homes called lodges.
- ② Beavers also pile wood, mud, and stones across a stream to make a dam. The dam slows the water and forms a pond. A pond gives beavers deep water around their lodge, which can help keep them safe from some predators.
- ③ In fall, beavers gather extra branches and store them underwater near the lodge. During winter, ice may cover the pond, but beavers can swim below it. They eat bark from stored branches and stay inside their lodge when the weather is cold.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the main topic of the whole text?

2 Retell two key details from the second paragraph.

3 Write a one-sentence summary of the third paragraph.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a two-sentence summary of the whole text. In your first sentence, tell the main topic. In your second sentence, include two important details from different paragraphs.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that tells the main topic of the whole text. Then number one key detail in each paragraph that helps explain the topic. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the main topic of the whole text?	The text is mostly about how beavers build and use lodges, dams, and ponds to live safely.
2	Retell two key details from the second paragraph.	Beavers pile wood, mud, and stones across a stream to make a dam. The dam slows the water and forms a pond around their lodge.
3	Write a one-sentence summary of the third paragraph.	In fall and winter, beavers store branches underwater for food and use their lodge and pond when it is cold.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Beavers change streams and care for their homes in ways that help them live safely. They build dams to make ponds, and they store branches underwater for winter food.

Accept main-topic answers about how beavers build and use dams, ponds, and lodges to survive. Accept summaries that state the main topic and include accurate key details without listing every fact.