

Beaver Builder Notes

See how facts, details, and headings build clear information.

4W2.b “Develop ideas on a topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, or other relevant information; include text features when useful for aiding comprehension.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three facts or concrete details that teach about beavers. Circle each bold heading to show how it organizes a different part of the topic.

Beavers Build Homes

- ① **What Is a Beaver?** A beaver is a large rodent that lives near ponds, streams, and rivers. It has thick brown fur, webbed back feet, and a wide, flat tail. Beavers use their sharp front teeth to cut wood. Their teeth keep growing throughout life, so chewing on wood helps wear them down to a useful length.
- ② **Building a Dam** A dam is a barrier that slows or stops moving water. Beavers stack branches, mud, stones, and plants across a stream. Water gathers behind the dam and can form a pond. The pond creates deeper water around the beavers' home. This water can make it harder for some land animals to reach the lodge.
- ③ **Life in the Lodge** A lodge is the beavers' home, often built from branches and mud. Its entrance is usually underwater, which helps protect the animals from some predators. Inside, beavers rest on a dry floor above the water. A family may store fresh branches in the pond nearby for food, especially when winter ice covers the pond.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which sentence defines a dam? Write the definition.

2 Which details from the first paragraph describe a beaver's body? List two.

3 How does the pond around a lodge help beavers? Use a detail from the passage.

4 How do the bold headings help a reader understand the passage?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a five-sentence informative paragraph about a school garden. Add a title and an underlined heading, define a school garden, and include at least three facts or concrete details about how it works or why it is useful.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline three facts or concrete details that teach about beavers. Circle each bold heading to show how it organizes a different part of the topic. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which sentence defines a dam? Write the definition.	A dam is a barrier that slows or stops moving water.
2	Which details from the first paragraph describe a beaver's body? List two.	Any two: thick brown fur, webbed back feet, a wide, flat tail, or sharp front teeth.
3	How does the pond around a lodge help beavers? Use a detail from the passage.	The pond creates deeper water around the home and can make it harder for some land animals to reach the lodge.
4	How do the bold headings help a reader understand the passage?	The headings tell what each paragraph is about, such as the beaver's body, dam, or lodge.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

School Garden Growing Food A school garden is a place at school where students grow plants. Raised beds hold soil above the ground, so gardeners can reach the plants easily. Students may plant lettuce seeds in spring, when cool weather helps lettuce grow. A watering can sends water near the roots, where plants take it in. The garden can provide vegetables for a class taste test and teach students how food grows.

Accept accurate details from the passage and reasonable wording for the questions. For the writing task, check for a title, an underlined heading, a definition, five sentences, and at least three relevant facts or concrete details.