Beaver Pond Questions

Use facts from a short source to answer and plan research questions.

3.6.R.1 "Students will conduct research to answer questions, including self-generated questions, and to build knowledge."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two facts that help answer why beavers make ponds, and circle one detail you want to learn more about so you can form a new research question.

A Pond Made by Beavers

1. A beaver does not build a dam just to make a splash. It builds one across a stream to slow the water. The water rises behind the dam and makes a pond. A beaver family can build a home, called a lodge, in the pond. The lodge has an entrance below the water. This makes it harder for many land animals to reach the beavers.

2. Beavers use branches, mud, and stones to build a dam. They carry branches in their mouths and push mud into gaps. Water still flows through and around many dams. If a dam breaks, beavers may repair it. A pond can cover the lodge entrance even when the water in the stream gets low. The beavers can also swim from their lodge to food near the pond.

3. A beaver pond changes the land around it. Water spreads out and covers some plants. Other plants grow along the new shore. Frogs may lay eggs in the still water, and fish may find places to hide. A dam can also flood a road or a farm field. People sometimes use pipes to lower the pond water while leaving the dam in place.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What two facts show how a dam helps keep beavers safer from land animals?

2. A classmate asks, "What do beavers use to build dams, and how do they put the materials in place?" Use the passage to answer both parts.

3. Which question can this passage answer: "How does a beaver pond help frogs?" or "How many eggs does a frog lay?" Answer the question you chose with a fact from the passage.

4. What fact shows that a beaver dam can cause a problem for people? What solution does the passage give?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a new question about beaver ponds that this passage does not answer. In two more sentences, tell which fact in the passage sparked your question and name a source you could use to research it.

ANSWER KEY

Beaver Pond Questions

GRADE 3 · 3.6.R.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two facts that help answer why beavers make ponds, and circle one detail you want to learn more about so you can form a new research question. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What two facts show how a dam helps keep beavers safer from land animals?	**The dam makes a pond where beavers can build a lodge. The lodge entrance is underwater, making it harder for many land animals to reach them.**
2	A classmate asks, "What do beavers use to build dams, and how do they put the materials in place?" Use the passage to answer both parts.	**Beavers use branches, mud, and stones. They carry branches in their mouths and push mud into gaps.**
3	Which question can this passage answer: "How does a beaver pond help frogs?" or "How many eggs does a frog lay?" Answer the question you chose with a fact from the passage.	**The passage can answer how a beaver pond helps frogs. Frogs may lay eggs in its still water.**
4	What fact shows that a beaver dam can cause a problem for people? What solution does the passage give?	**A dam can flood a road or farm field. People sometimes use pipes to lower the pond water while leaving the dam in place.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Which kinds of fish hide in beaver ponds? The passage says fish may find places to hide there. I would look in a library book about beaver ponds to find out.

Accept answers that use accurate passage facts. For Your Turn, the question must go beyond the passage, connect to one of its facts, and name a source the student could use.