

# Busy Beaver Builders

Find the big idea and its supporting facts.

**ELA.2.R.2.2** "Identify the central idea and relevant details in a text."

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## 1 READ AND MARK \_\_\_\_\_ Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline a sentence that tells the passage's big idea. Then write 1, 2, and 3 beside three details that tell how beavers build or protect their homes.

### Beavers Build Homes

- ① Beavers are animals that build homes in ponds and streams. They use their strong teeth to cut small trees and branches. Then they carry the wood through the water to make a safe place to live.
- ② A beaver may pile logs, mud, and stones across a stream. This dam slows the water and makes a pond. The pond can help protect the beaver's lodge, which is its home.
- ③ Inside the lodge, beavers make a dry room above the water. They enter through an underwater opening, which can keep some predators away. By building dams and lodges, beavers create a safer home.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What is the central idea of the passage?

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2 Give one detail from paragraph 1 that tells how beavers build homes.

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3 How do the dam and the underwater opening help protect a beaver?

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## 3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Use this passage to tell a friend about beaver homes. Write the big idea in one sentence. Then write two details from the passage that support it. You may use more than one sentence for the details.

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**PART 1 • READ AND MARK**

Underline a sentence that tells the passage's big idea. Then write 1, 2, and 3 beside three details that tell how beavers build or protect their homes. 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 passage?                             | <b>Beavers build dams and lodges to create safer homes.</b>                                                                                            |
| 2 | Give one detail from paragraph 1 that tells how beavers build homes. | <b>They cut trees and branches with their teeth, OR they carry wood through the water to make a home. Accept either detail in the student's words.</b> |
| 3 | How do the dam and the underwater opening help protect a beaver?     | <b>The dam makes a pond that can protect the lodge, and the underwater opening can keep some predators away.</b>                                       |

**PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)**

Beavers build safer homes. They make dams that form ponds. They enter their lodges through underwater openings that can keep predators away.

For Read and Mark, the final sentence is the clearest central idea; accept the opening sentence with relevant supporting details. Any three accurate building or protection details are valid. Accept paraphrases. For Your Turn, require a central idea plus two relevant passage details; do not require a fixed number of sentences.