When Beavers Build

Find how one change leads to another in an informational text.

2.RI.3 "Explain the relationships between historical events, scientific ideas, or technical procedures in a text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two causes in the passage and circle what happens because of each one. Draw an arrow from each cause to its result.

A New Pond

1. Beavers use branches, mud, and stones to build a dam across a stream. The dam slows the moving water. Water gathers behind it, making a pond. The pond spreads over land that was once dry.

2. At the edge of the new pond, some plants grow in the wet soil. Insects find food among these plants. Frogs come to eat the insects and lay eggs in the pond's still water.

3. Beavers also make a home in the pond. Its door is under water, where many land animals cannot reach it. The dam needs care. If water washes a hole in it, beavers patch the hole with more branches and mud.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the dam change the stream and the nearby land?

2. How do the plants at the pond's edge help bring frogs to the pond?

3. How does the pond help keep beavers safe in their home?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine the beavers leave and a hole opens in the dam. Write two sentences telling what may happen to the pond and then to the frogs. Use what you learned from the passage.

ANSWER KEY

When Beavers Build

GRADE 2 · 2.RI.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two causes in the passage and circle what happens because of each one. Draw an arrow from each cause to its result. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the dam change the stream and the nearby land?	**The dam slows the stream. Water gathers behind it and makes a pond that spreads over dry land.**
2	How do the plants at the pond's edge help bring frogs to the pond?	**Insects find food among the plants, and frogs come to eat the insects.**
3	How does the pond help keep beavers safe in their home?	**The home's door is under water, where many land animals cannot reach it.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Water may flow through the hole, so the pond may get smaller. Frogs may have less still water in which to lay their eggs.

Accept two linked predictions supported by the passage, such as a smaller pond and less still water for frog eggs. Students do not need to predict that all frogs will leave.