

Pond Change Makers

Connect details to form a new understanding.

3.6.H "synthesize information to create new understanding; and"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one detail in each paragraph that shows an effect of a beaver dam. Number the three details 1, 2, and 3, then use them to build a new idea as you answer the questions.

The Pond Builders

- ① Beavers build dams by placing branches, mud, and stones across a moving stream. The dam slows the water and can make a pond behind it. A beaver's home, called a lodge, may sit in the pond. Its underwater entrance helps protect the beaver from animals, such as coyotes, that hunt it on land near the pond.
- ② When water spreads over the land, new plants can grow near the pond's edge. Frogs lay eggs in calm water, and young fish may hide among water plants. Herons sometimes visit to catch fish. In this way, one beaver dam can create places where several kinds of living things find food, shelter, or space to grow.
- ③ A pond can also cause problems for people. If a dam floods a trail or a road, people may need to move the water or change the path. Wildlife helpers study the area before deciding what to do. They must combine what they know about animal homes, water flow, and people's needs to choose a safe plan.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What new understanding do you get when you connect the fact that a dam slows water with the fact that frogs lay eggs in calm water?

2 Use details from paragraphs 1 and 2. How can a beaver pond help both a beaver and young fish stay safer?

3 What new understanding comes from putting together the benefits in paragraph 2 and the problem in paragraph 3?

4 Why do wildlife helpers need to combine information about animal homes, water flow, and people's needs before choosing a plan?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine beavers build a dam near a forest path. Write two sentences that explain one benefit and one challenge that could happen. Combine at least two details from the passage.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline one detail in each paragraph that shows an effect of a beaver dam. Number the three details 1, 2, and 3, then use them to build a new idea as you answer the questions. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What new understanding do you get when you connect the fact that a dam slows water with the fact that frogs lay eggs in calm water?	A beaver dam can create calm pond water where frogs can lay eggs.
2	Use details from paragraphs 1 and 2. How can a beaver pond help both a beaver and young fish stay safer?	A lodge can have an underwater entrance that protects a beaver, and water plants can give young fish places to hide.
3	What new understanding comes from putting together the benefits in paragraph 2 and the problem in paragraph 3?	A beaver pond can create helpful habitat for wildlife, but it can also flood trails or roads used by people.
4	Why do wildlife helpers need to combine information about animal homes, water flow, and people's needs before choosing a plan?	They need all of the information to choose a safe plan that considers wildlife, water, and people.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

If beavers build a dam near a forest path, slower water could form a pond where fish and frogs find shelter. However, if water floods the path, people may need a new route while wildlife helpers protect animal homes.

Accept responses that combine at least two passage details into a reasonable new idea. For Part 3, the response should include both a wildlife benefit and a possible challenge for people.