

Beaver Builder Notes

Annotate an informational text for actions and reasons.

3.7.E “interact with sources in meaningful ways such as notetaking, annotating, freewriting, or illustrating;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline actions the beavers take. Circle details that explain why an action or home feature is useful.

A Beaver's Busy Home

- ① Beavers are large rodents that live near ponds, streams, and rivers. At night, they use their sharp front teeth to cut small trees and branches. They carry mud, sticks, and stones to the water. A beaver may build a dam across a moving stream. The dam slows the water and can create a deeper pond around the beavers' home.
- ② In the pond, a beaver builds a lodge, or shelter, from branches and mud. The entrance is often underwater, which helps keep many land animals out. Inside, the beaver makes a dry space above the water. A family of beavers can rest there, raise kits, and stay warmer when cold weather comes. The pond also gives the family a place to swim.
- ③ Beavers must keep repairing their dam and lodge. Flowing water can push sticks away, and heavy rain can change a stream. Beavers listen for the sound of running water. If they hear a leak, they may bring more mud and sticks to that spot. By working often, beavers help their pond stay deep enough for swimming and for a safe underwater entrance.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Look at your underlines in paragraph 1. What action helps create a deeper pond?

2 Which circled detail in paragraph 2 explains why the lodge entrance is underwater?

3 Use one underlined action and one circled reason from paragraph 3. Why do beavers repair their dam and lodge?

4 Which paragraph would you revisit to learn how a lodge stays dry? Write the paragraph number and one marked detail.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Make a three-part sketch note about beavers. Draw one action from each paragraph, add a 4 to 8 word caption to each drawing, and add one 5 to 10 word why note.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline actions the beavers take. Circle details that explain why an action or home feature is useful. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Look at your underlines in paragraph 1. What action helps create a deeper pond?	A beaver builds a dam across a moving stream.
2	Which circled detail in paragraph 2 explains why the lodge entrance is underwater?	It helps keep many land animals out.
3	Use one underlined action and one circled reason from paragraph 3. Why do beavers repair their dam and lodge?	They repair them because flowing water can push sticks away and heavy rain can change a stream.
4	Which paragraph would you revisit to learn how a lodge stays dry? Write the paragraph number and one marked detail.	Paragraph 2. The beaver makes a dry space above the water.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Drawing 1 caption: "Beaver builds a dam across a stream." Drawing 2 caption: "Beaver builds a lodge from branches." Drawing 3 caption: "Beaver repairs a leak with mud." Why note: "A dam can make a deeper pond."

Accept equivalent actions and reasons that are marked or clearly supported by the passage. For the sketch note, accept accurate drawings with three captions of 4 to 8 words and one supported why note of 5 to 10 words.