



THE OFAH | MARIO CORTELLUCCI
HUNTING & FISHING
 Heritage Centre

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www.hfhc.ca



JK to Grade 3

Beavers are amazing swimmers! Dive in and see if you can find words related to beavers.

Word Search

H	E	R	B	I	V	O	R	E	Q	M	D
S	E	M	I	A	Q	U	A	T	I	C	W
R	T	G	W	H	B	E	A	V	E	R	E
K	A	P	Y	N	C	T	E	E	T	H	B
I	I	I	N	C	I	S	O	R	S	A	B
T	L	Z	J	K	E	L	O	D	G	E	E
S	N	C	C	A	S	T	O	R	G	D	D
Y	P	R	O	D	E	N	T	G	A	I	X

BEAVER
 CASTOR
 HERBIVORE
 INCISORS

KITS
 LODGE
 RODENT
 SEMIAQUATIC

TAIL
 TEETH
 WEBBED





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Grade 4 to Grade 8

Crossword Puzzle



BEAVERS

Across: →

- 4. An animal that lives on land and in water
- 7. Teeth used to cut down trees
- 8. The name of a beaver home
- 10. North America's largest rodent
- 11. Another name for a beaver fur

Down: ↓

- 1. Slapped against the water as a warning
- 2. The name for baby beavers
- 3. An animal that eats only plant material
- 5. Gland used in perfumes and foods
- 6. They harvest beavers for their furs/meat
- 9. _____ feet are used to push through water





CHALLENGE! (40 min.)



Become a Dam-building Beaver

You'll need: An outdoor space, or space where water can get spilled (accidents happen!), a large shallow container for each group (think about a tin lasagna pan, large tupperware container, etc.), sand and/or dirt, gravel and rocks, small sticks and twigs, and a big container to pour water out of.

Set Up: Ensure there is enough materials for the class, divided into groups of 2, and that the space is an acceptable space in case water is spilled.

Explanation:

- Divide the class into groups of 2.
- Ask students what they know about beaver dams. What is a beaver dam? Why do beavers construct them? What materials do they use to make them?
- Explain that a dam is something that blocks or slows down the flow of water in a river or a stream. A lake or pond is created behind the dam. Beavers build dams across streams to create these ponds where they can build a "beaver lodge" to live in. These ponds provide protection from predators like wolves, coyotes, bears, or mountain lions. Beavers build their dams out of trees and branches that they cut using their strong incisor (front) teeth! They also use grass, rocks, and mud.
- Show the Beaver Lodge Construction Video on YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iyNA62FrKCE>
- Then explain that the teams will take time to build their own beaver dams inside of their containers.
- Using the materials, students will build a dam inside of their container. Build it up using layers of mud, sand, twigs, or whatever natural materials you choose for the class. (Hint; it may be more successful for students to wet some of the sand or dirt in their initial building stage in order for it to be easier to mound up and stick together)
- Slowly pour a small amount of water on one side of the dam.
- Did the water break or go through the dam? If so, empty the container and try again!
- Remember: some water will trickle past a dam; a beaver dam on a stream or river doesn't completely hold the water back.
- Did your dam hold most of the water back? Congratulations! You made a dam just like a beaver!
- Debrief with students discussing their observations regarding what worked, what didn't work and why they think their dam worked or didn't work as intended.





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