

Name: _____

Date: _____

Reading Comprehension Worksheets

THE BEAVER

ACTIVITY 1:

Read the following passage “**The Beaver**“. Read aloud then answer the questions that follow.

Notes for reading: Preview the text to be read. Before you start reading, ask yourself, what does the author want me to think or feel? Do I agree with the author? While you read pay close attention to the details presented in the text.

Note, the words printed in **bold** should be read with more force than the other words.

ACTIVITY 1:

Complete the KWL worksheet for the “**Beaver**“.

KWL-worksheet [Download](#)

Activity 2: Draw a beaver and use the passage to help you label its distinct physical traits.



Name: _____

Date: _____

Reading Comprehension Worksheets

THE BEAVER

The **beaver** is found chiefly in North America. It is about three and a half feet **long**, including the flat, paddle- shaped tail, which is a **foot** in length. The long, shining **hair** on the **back** is chestnut-colored, while the fine, soft fur that lies next the skin, is grayish brown.

Beavers build themselves most **curious** huts to live in, and quite frequently a great **number** of these huts are placed close **together**, like the buildings in a town. They **always** build their huts on the banks of rivers or lakes, for they swim much more easily than they **walk**, and **prefer** moving about in the **water**. When they build on the bank of a running stream, they make a dam across the stream for the purpose of keeping the water at the height they wish. These dams are made chiefly of mud, and stones, and the branches of trees. They are sometimes six or seven hundred feet in length, and are so constructed that they **look** more like the work of man than of little **dumb** beasts.

Their huts are made of the same material as the dams, and are round in shape. The walls are **very** thick, and the roofs are finished off with a thick layer of mud, sticks, and leaves. They commence building their houses **late** in the summer, but do not get them **finished** before the early frosts. The freezing makes them **tighter** and **stronger**. They obtain the wood for their dams and huts by **gnawing** through the branches of trees, and even through the trunks of small

Name: _____

Date: _____

Reading Comprehension Worksheets

ones, with their sharp front teeth. They peel off the bark, and lay it up in store for winter food.



Beaver at work.

The **fur** of the beaver is highly prized. The men who **hunt** these animals are called trappers. A gentleman once saw five young beavers playing. They would **leap** on the trunk of a tree that lay near a beaver dam, and would **push** one another off into the water. He crept forward very **cautiously**, and was about to fire on the little creatures; but their amusing tricks reminded him so much of some little children he knew at home, that he thought it would be **inhuman** to kill them. So he left **them** without even disturbing their play.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Reading Comprehension Worksheets

QUESTIONS

1. What makes a beaver a fascinating animal? Discuss.

2. Complete the sentence.

Beavers are known for

3. Which do beaver do better?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Reading Comprehension Worksheets

4. Where do beavers build their huts?

5. List the materials a dam is made of .

6. How are humans similar to beavers?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Reading Comprehension Worksheets

7. What do trappers do?

8. Why did the man in the passage decide not to fire at the beavers?
