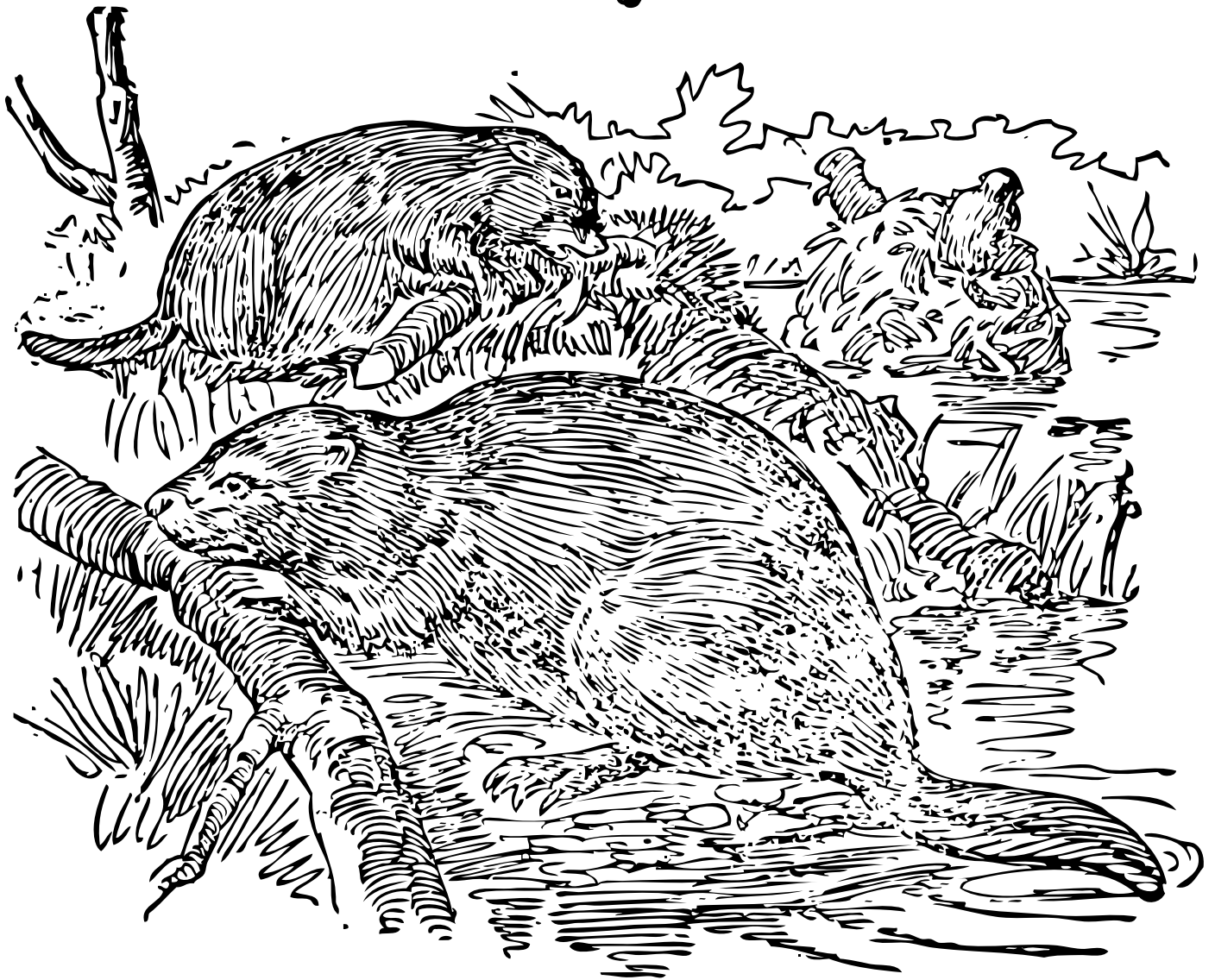




CASCADIA
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BEAVER

Activity Book

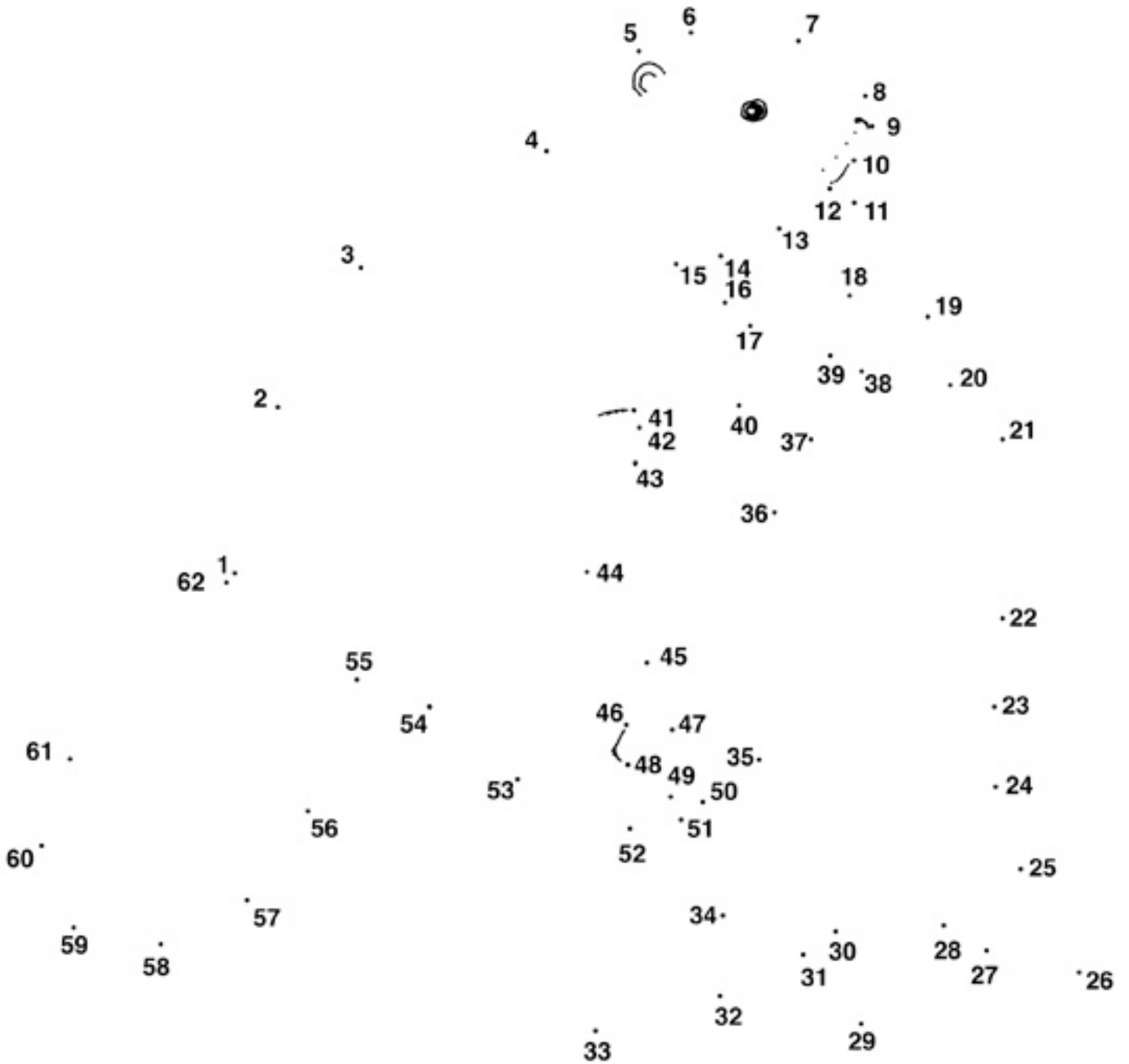


NAME : _____

WHO AM I?

My scientific name is ***Castor canadensis***.

Connect the dots to see who I am!

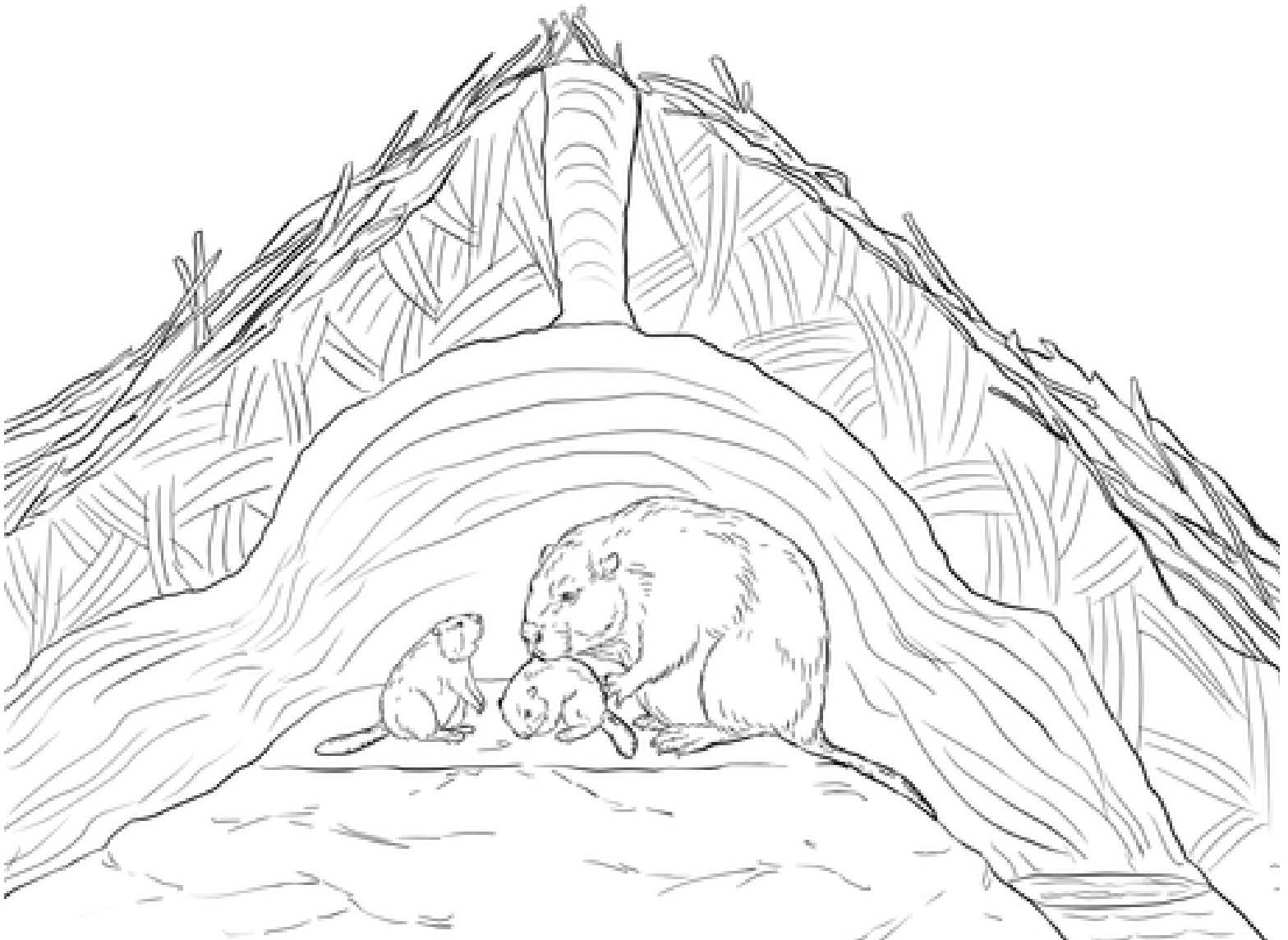


BEAVER FAMILIES

DID YOU KNOW?

Baby beavers, or **kits**, are born with all their teeth?!

Beavers can eat bark and leaves when they are just a few days old. The newborn kits share their lodge with their parents and they live as a family until they are about 2 years old.



BEAVER ADAPTATIONS

Adaptations are things that help a living thing survive in its environment, or the area that it lives in.

BAD EYESIGHT

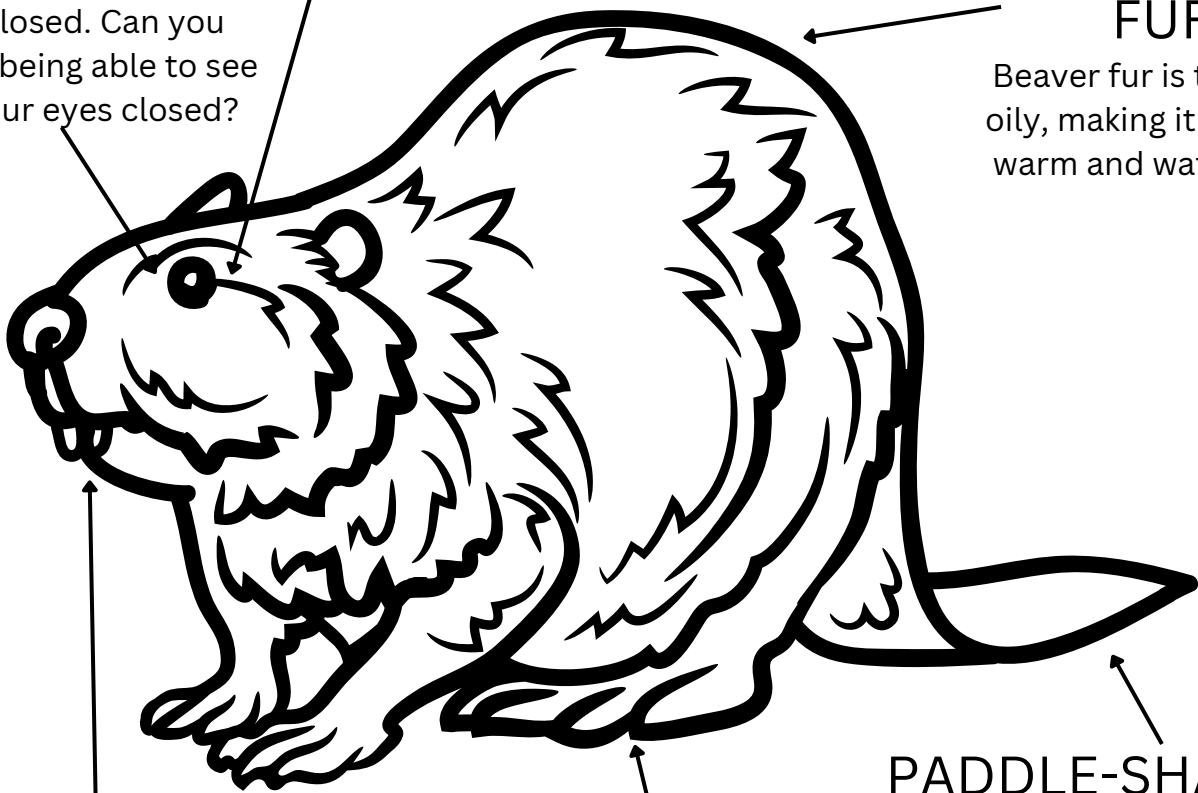
Beavers have bad eyesight, but strong senses of smell, touch and hearing.

CLEAR EYELIDS

This helps beavers to see underwater even with their eyes closed. Can you imagine being able to see with your eyes closed?

WATERPROOF FUR

Beaver fur is thick and oily, making it naturally warm and waterproof.



BIG SHARP

ORANGE TEETH

Beavers use their teeth to cut down trees, so their teeth are strong and never stop growing. The orange color is from iron, which keeps them strong.

WEBBED

BACK FEET

The webbing helps them to swim, like a flipper.

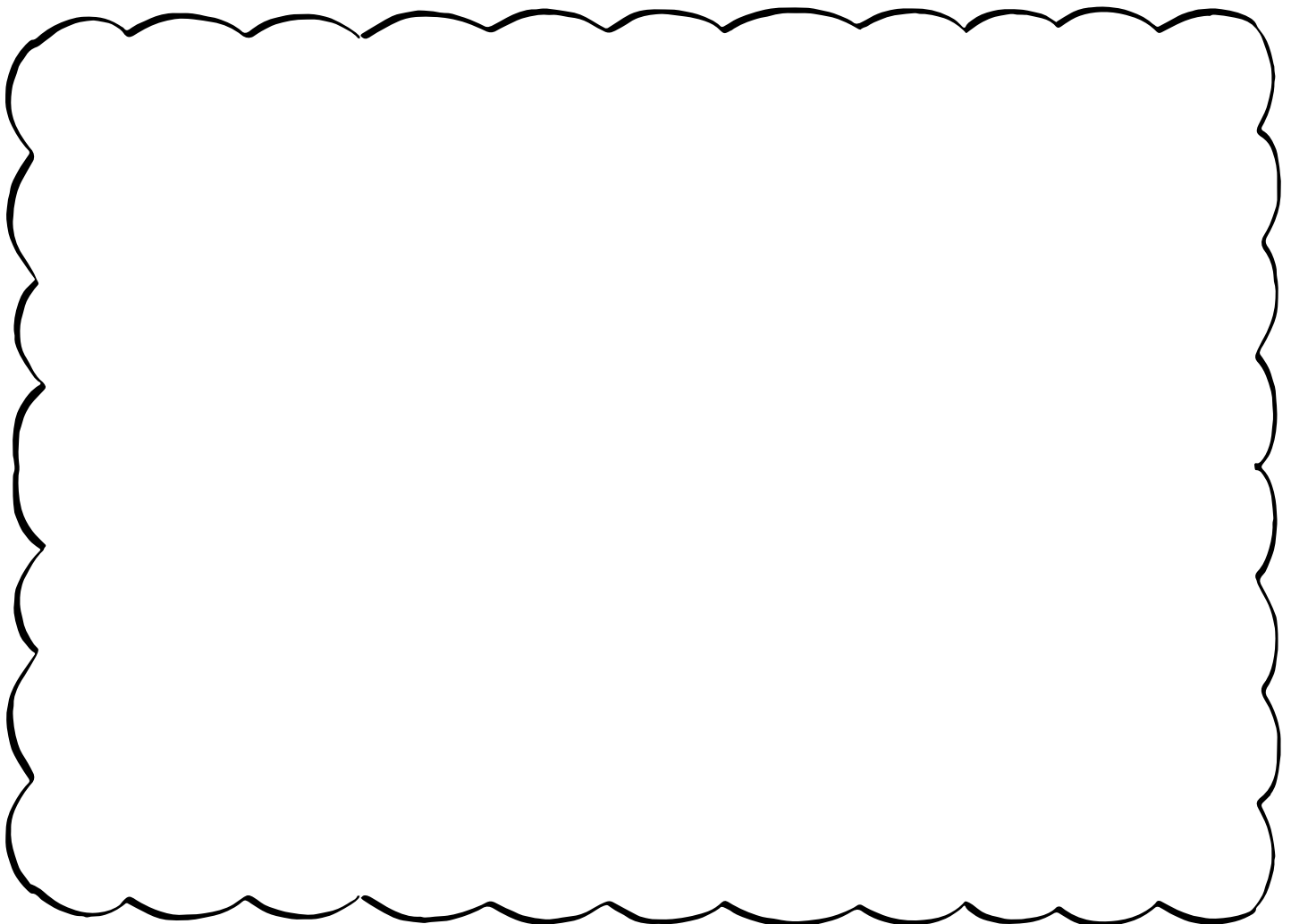
PADDLE-SHAPED TAIL

Beavers use their tail to swim and signal danger by slapping it on the water.

BEAVER ADAPTATIONS

Follow the prompts to draw yourself with beaver adaptations!

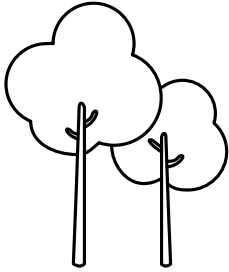
- Start by drawing a body (body, legs, head, arms)
- Beaver feet are webbed, which means their toes have a piece of skin between them and their feet look like flippers.
 - Draw feet with webbed toes
- Beavers can't see very well, so they use their other senses to do things.
 - Draw whiskers on your face
- Beavers have clear eyelids so that they can see underwater without hurting their eyes.
 - Draw swim goggles on your person
- Beavers have big orange teeth that never stop growing.
 - Draw a smile with big, orange front teeth
- Beavers use their big flat tail to swim and slap the water when there's danger.
 - Draw a big flat tail
- The fur on a beaver is waterproof, to keep them warm and dry.
 - Draw a warm raincoat on your person



WHERE DO BEAVERS LIVE?

DID YOU KNOW?

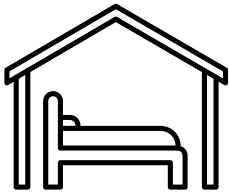
Beavers live in lodges made out of trees, twigs, mud and stones. What is your home made of?



Beavers cut down trees by the river with their teeth.



Then, they use those branches to slow down the water by building a **dam**.

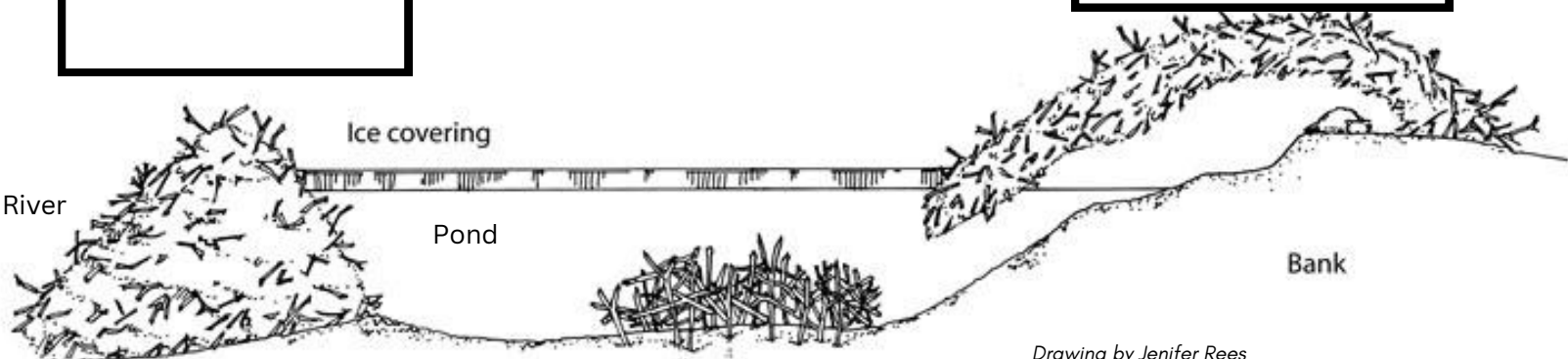


They build a home (called a **lodge**) in the pond made by their dam. The only way to get in is by swimming underwater!



They also build something called a **food cache**. This is where they keep their food for the winter.

Can you find the **beaver dam**, **food cache**, and **lodge** in the drawing?

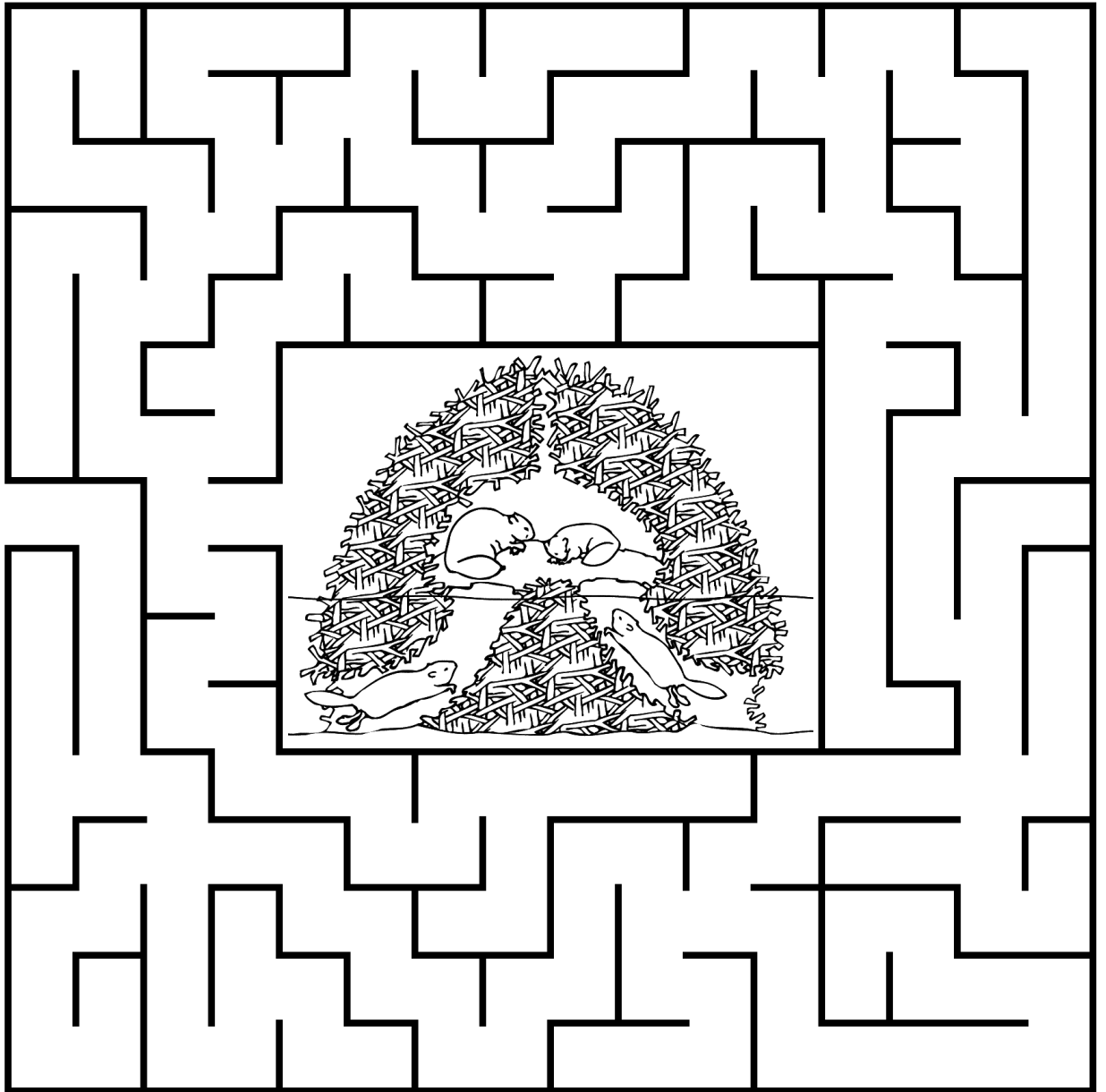


Drawing by Jenifer Rees



BEAVER MAZE

Help the beaver bring a willow branch back to their family in the lodge



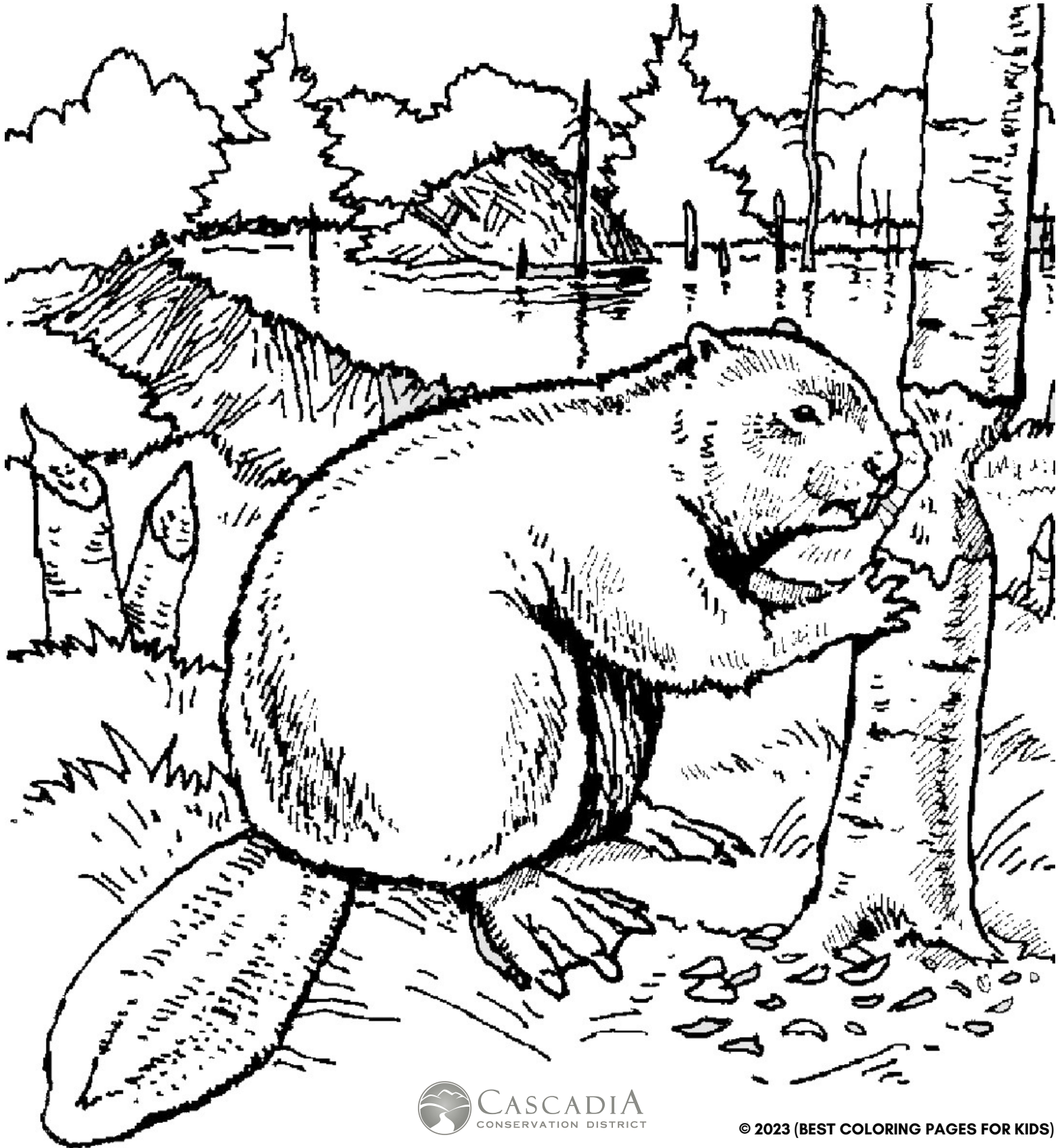
DID YOU KNOW?

Beavers are **herbivores**?

This means that they only eat plants!

DID YOU KNOW?

Beavers use their teeth to cut down trees. *A beaver can chew through a medium sized tree in one night!* Their two front teeth, called **incisors**, are as sharp as a chisel, a tool used to carve wood.



BEAVER

Word Search



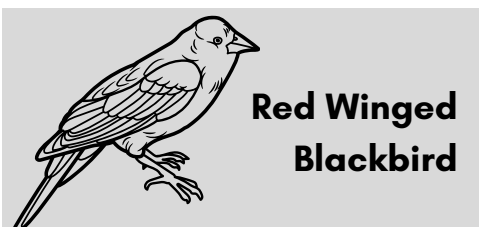
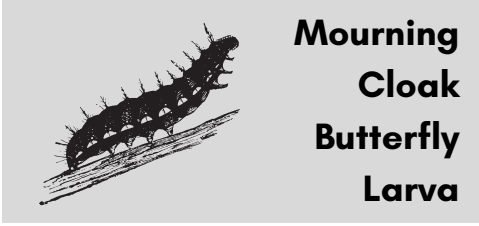
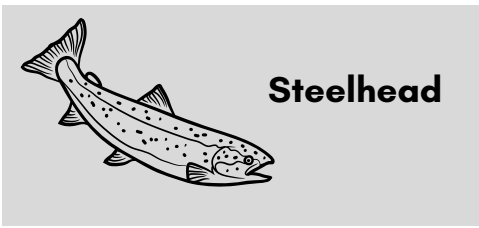
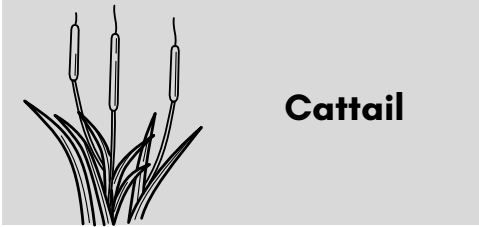
*Find the words from the box below.
They can be across, down, or diagonal.*

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

- | | | | |
|--------|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| DAM | KIT | INCISOR | RESTORATION |
| CHISEL | LODGE | BIODIVERSITY | RODENT |
| CASTOR | HERBIVORE | ECOSYSTEM | HABITAT |

BEAVER FOOD WEB

Draw a line to match the plant or animal with the right definition



- provides shade on the creek and is a beaver's favorite food!

- certain butterfly larva love eating the leaves of this plant, and bees love the flowers in early spring

- has special roots (called rhizomes) that are eaten by beavers and other animals. The flower at the top looks like a hot dog, but it doesn't taste like one!

- a song bird found in wetlands. They make their nests in cattail and tall grass.

- an amphibian that needs slow moving water or ponds for their eggs.

- this animal is also known as a rainbow trout. They use cold water in beaver ponds to search for insects and to get away from predators

- these animals eat willow leaves and are a protein-rich source of food for fish and birds

HEALTHY STREAM HABITAT

Native plants provide habitat- food, forage and shelter for our local wildlife, including beavers. Use plants and animals from the last page (and add your own!) to help restore healthy **ecosystems** along the creek!



WHY ARE BEAVERS SO IMPORTANT?

Fill in the blanks with the words below

dams
water

engineers
changing

cold
insects
habitat

Beavers are called ecosystem _____, because they are very good at _____ the environment where they live.

They build _____ out of sticks, mud, rocks, and logs that create ponds in rivers.

Beaver ponds slow down and pool water. This helps keep _____ in the river longer for plants and animals. The ponds also help keep the water _____. Keeping the water cold is important for salmon and many other fish.

_____, birds, amphibians, mammals, plants and fish, oh my! The ponds made by a beaver dam make _____ for many plants and animals.

BUILD A BEAVER DAM, AT HOME!

Make sure you ask a grown-up for permission first!

Supplies:

- A baking dish, plastic container, or any waterproof container deep enough to hold your water and dam
- Dam materials: mud, dirt, sand, rocks, sticks, whatever you can find outside!
- Tools: Shovel, trowel, or just your hands!
- Water

Steps:

1. Gather your materials! Go outside and pretend you are a beaver. What do you think is the best material to build a dam?
2. Using your materials, build a dam across your container so that it will keep water from running across to the other side. Build it up using layers of mud, sand, twigs, or whatever else you found.
3. Slowly pour a small amount of water on one side of the dam.
4. Make some observations. Did the water break through? Empty your container and try again! *Remember, some water will trickle past your dam; a beaver dam on a stream doesn't completely hold the water back.*
5. Did your dam hold most of the water back? Congratulations! You made a dam just like a beaver!

Instructions and pictures can be found at:
<https://www.nps.gov/articles/buildabeaverdam.htm>

ANSWER KEY




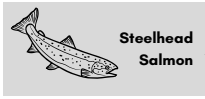



For more information on any of the topics in this book
please contact info@cascadiacd.org

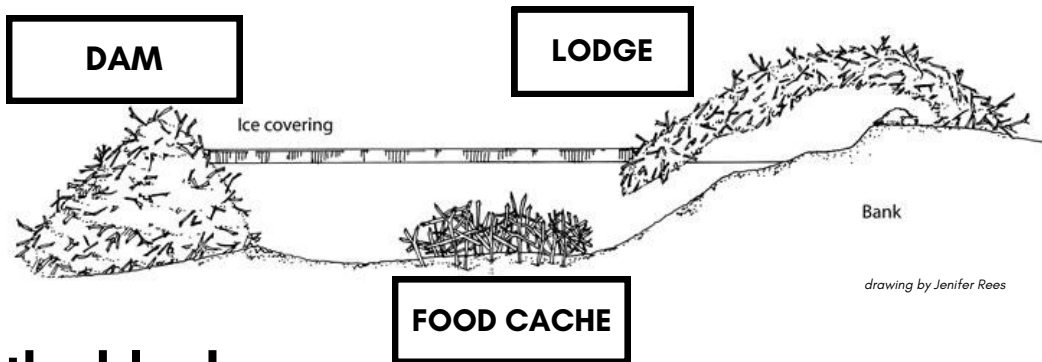
Word Search:



Matching:

Match the plant or animal with the correct definition

	Cattail	●	provides shade on the creek and is a beaver's favorite food!
	Aspen Tree	●	certain butterfly larva love eating the leaves of this plant, and bees love the flowers in early spring
	Willow	●	has special roots (called rhizomes) that are eaten by beavers and other animals. The flower at the top looks like a hot dog, but it doesn't taste like one!
	Steelhead Salmon	●	is a song bird found in wetlands. They make their nests in cattail and tall grasses
	Red Winged Blackbird	●	is an amphibian that needs slow moving water or ponds for their eggs
	Morning Cloak Butterfly Larva	●	this animal is also known as a rainbow trout. They use cold water in beaver ponds to search for insects and hide from predators
	Pacific Tree Frog	●	eat willow leaves and are a protein-rich source of food for fish and birds



Fill in the blank:

Beavers are called ecosystem **engineers**, because they are very good at changing the **environment** where they live.

They build **dams** and lodges out of sticks, mud, rocks, and logs that turn rivers into ponds.

Beaver ponds slow down and pool water. This helps keep more **water** on land and in the river for plants and animals. The ponds also help keep the water **cold**. Keeping the water cold is important for salmon and many other fish.

Insects, birds, amphibians, mammals, plants and fish, oh my! The ponds made by a beaver dam make **habitat** for many plants and animals.