



Little People's Learning Center

Beavers

A Lesson by Miss Augusta

Videos:

- [How do beavers build a dam?](#)
- [Baby Beaver!](#) - from Animal Wonders (a non profit wildlife center in Missoula)
- National Geographic Kids - [American Beaver Awesome Animals](#)

Activities

1.) *Beaver Hike: Where do beavers live?*

Beavers build their lodges and dams in small streams and ponds. Can you find any in your neighborhood? You can look for trees that have been downed by beavers by looking for chew marks. If you live in Lower Mammoth you can even build a fort or beaver dam by the waterfall, lots of sticks to use!

2.) *Beaver Lodges*

Have kiddos become beavers and build a sturdy beaver lodge! You can build a beaver dam outside in a bin or on the ground . Have them build with small sticks and rocks, you can even “test” your dam by pouring water, if any water comes through, try again! **You can also build an edible beaver lodge using frosting and pretzel sticks, (you can also dye your frosting blue to make a pond!)**

3.) *Tongue Twister*

The busy, bold beaver bit bitter brown bark



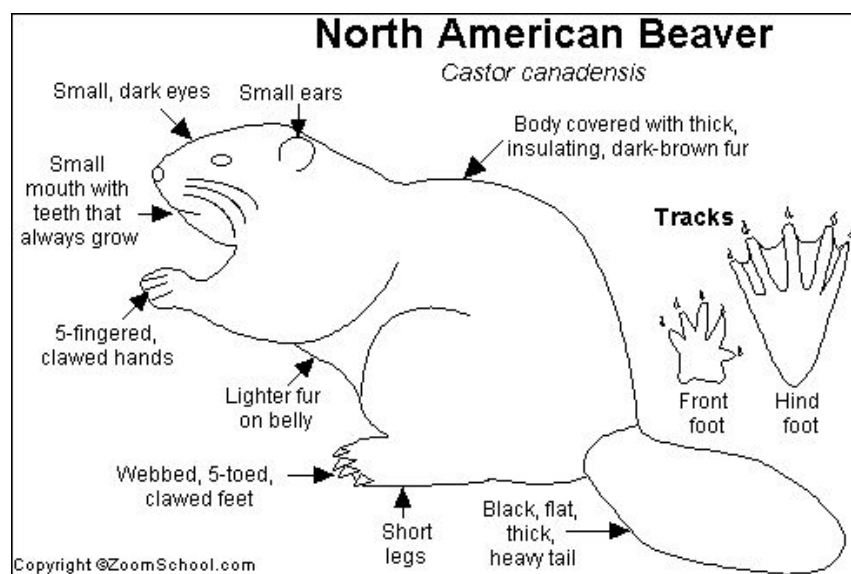
Little People's Learning Center

4.) Beaver Adaptations

Beavers have amazing adaptations to help them survive in the wild. See the photo below for an illustration. Teach about these adaptations in a dress up game! Beavers have strong teeth to help them cut down trees for food and their homes. Their teeth never stop growing! You can cut out big teeth from scratch paper. Below are more beaver adaptations with corresponding household items you can use to dress up like a beaver.

- Webbed hind feet(help beavers swim quickly in water): *comb, flippers*
- Tail(helps beavers move in the water and act as a rudder): *big sheet of paper, scarf*
- Fur(long guard hairs shed water, soft layer keeps them warm): *coat*
- Fat layer(keeps beavers warmer in the winter): *pad, life jacket*
- Nictating membrane (a clear extra eyelid that helps beavers swim underwater!): *goggles or sunglasses*
- Extra strong lungs(beavers can hold their breath for 15 minutes!): *balloons, gallon jugs*

What else can you find in your home that represents beaver adaptations? What adaptations do you have that help you?





Little People's Learning Center

5.) Beaver Craft

Beaver paper plate mask. Practice coloring and making circles! Instructions below.



Materials:

- paper plate,
- brown paint and paint brush,
- something to color with (or color printer),
- scissors,
- glue,
- paper,
- printer,
- Optional: You can substitute large googly eyes for the template eyes.
- Optional: Use a black marker to draw whiskers on the face.
- Optional FOR MASK: Paint Stir Stick , thin strip of wood or Tongue Depressor .

Instructions:

1. Paint the bottom of the paper plate brown.
2. Print out the craft template of choice.
3. Color (if using the black and white version of the craft) and cut out the template pieces. Most of the pieces are simple enough shapes for young



Little People's Learning Center

children to cut out, but if needed, an adult can help with some of the harder pieces (the hair).

4. Glue the pieces to the plate to make a beaver face:
 1. Glue the teeth onto the bottom of the face.
 2. Glue the ears onto either side near the top of the head.
 3. Glue the hair onto the center top of the head.
 4. Glue the nose on the face just above the teeth.
 5. Glue the eyes onto the face above the nose and under the hair (or cut out holes for eyes in a mask).
 6. Glue the eyebrows above the eyes.