



Beaver Survival Activity

Time: approx. 45 min

Location: Outdoors, preferably an area that has twigs/sticks on the ground.

Materials: none, unless you cannot get to an area that has twigs, sticks, or woodchips on the ground, in which case you might spread out popsicle sticks.

Next Generation Science Standards:

Cross-cutting concepts: Structure & Function

Science & Engineering Practices: Asking questions; Constructing Explanations

Disciplinary Core Ideas: LS2: ecosystems: interactions, energy & dynamics

Engage-

- Ask students: What do beavers eat?
 - Clarify that beavers eat cambium, which is plant tissue between the “wood” and the “bark”.
 - Explain that beavers spend their time during summer eating and building their lodges and dams. They store food under water in big piles called caches. When winter comes, they retreat to their lodges and eat from their caches.

Explore – Play the game!

- Explain that we will be acting as beavers for this next game. Each student needs to find a home base (their lodge that they just built).

