

Read this article about beavers. Then answer questions 1 through 5.

Busy as a Beaver

by Christina Mathers

You may hear the words “busy as a beaver.” Do you know what this means?



Beavers are talented builders. They are also hardworking animals. They cut down trees to make a dam. They make the dam out of tree branches and twigs. The dam blocks a stream or a small river. It keeps the water deep. The beavers need deep water for their homes.

Sometimes they build a home inside a dam. This is called a “lodge.” They may also build a den on the side of a river. Both kinds of homes are made of twigs, branches, mud, and rocks. The beavers make more than one way to go in and out of their homes. One door is under the water. This helps keep the beavers safe. If a fox or a wolf chases them, they can hide in their homes. Their enemies cannot get in.

Beavers also work hard to find food. They store some food in their homes to eat in the winter. They eat tree bark. They also eat water plants, grass, and roots.

Beavers use their teeth and tails to help them in their work. Their long, sharp front teeth can cut trees and help them drag branches to a stream. Their flat tails help hold them up when they chew trees. Their tails also help them swim. Sometimes they slap their tails on the water. This makes a sound that alerts other beavers if there is danger.

1 What is this article **mostly** about?

- A how to build a home
- B a hardworking animal
- C a special kind of home
- D storing food for winter

2 Read this sentence from the story.

This makes a sound that alerts other beavers if there is danger.

The word “alerts” **most likely** means

- A hides
- B feeds
- C warns
- D chases

3 The purpose of paragraph 3 is to tell about the beavers’

- A** homes
- B** bodies
- C** work habits
- D** food supply

4 Which sentence from the article is an **opinion**?

- A** Beavers are talented builders.
- B** They cut down trees to make a dam.
- C** The dam blocks a stream or a small river.
- D** The beavers need deep water for their homes.

5 The author **most likely** wrote this article to

- A** tell an exciting story
- B** explain how animals eat
- C** describe what rivers are like
- D** give information about an animal