



Assessment Date: ____/____/____ Student: _____ Examiner: _____
Words Read Correctly (WRC): _____ Errors: _____ Notes: _____

Beavers

Mr J

The beaver is a large North American mammal that spends a lot of its time in the water. It is the largest member of the rodent family.	16 27
Adult beavers grow to about one metre in length not counting their tail. Their eyes are small and their ears and nostrils can be closed when they are underwater. The front feet are short and have heavy claws. These work like hands and are used for feeding, grooming, digging, and building dams and lodges. Their back legs are large and the feet are webbed for swimming. Their fur is almost waterproof. They have a large flat tail that looks like the end of a canoe paddle. They use this as a warning signal by slapping it on the water to help with swimming. They can stay under water for 15 minutes at a time. They have large, very sharp, front teeth which they use to cut down trees up to 75cm thick.	41 55 68 80 94 111 127 142 158 159
Beavers live by rivers, streams, ponds and lakes. They are most at home in water. They can move about on land but are slow and awkward and only do so to reach nearby trees for their building projects. They are one of the few animals that change their environment in a big way to provide themselves with living space and protection.	173 189 203 216 220



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