Beaver Riddles



30 riddles from easy to tricky. Write your answer on the line. Answers are on the last page.

Easy riddles ★

1. I have big orange front teeth, a flat tail like a paddle, and I build dams across streams with sticks and mud. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

2. I'm a wall of sticks, logs, stones and mud built across a stream. I hold back the water so a pond forms behind me. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

3. I'm a beaver's home: a dome of sticks and mud in the middle of a pond, with a dry room inside above the water. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

4. Whack! When I spot danger, I slap my flat, scaly body part on the water so loudly that my whole family dives to safety. Which body part do I use?

   ANSWER _____

5. My four front teeth are orange and never stop growing. Gnawing on wood all day keeps them from getting too long. What are these special teeth called?

   ANSWER _____

6. I'm a baby beaver. I'm born with my eyes open and fur on, and I can swim within a day. What am I called?

   ANSWER _____

7. The beaver is the national animal of this country, and you'll find one on its 5-cent coin. What country is it?

   ANSWER _____

8. Beavers block a stream, and the water spreads out and stays calm behind the dam. What do they make?

   ANSWER _____

9. Which dog sound is also a beaver's favorite thing to eat?

   ANSWER _____

10. Mice, squirrels, porcupines and beavers all belong to the same animal group, because they have front teeth that keep growing. What is the group called?

    ANSWER _____

Medium riddles ★★

11. Beavers are the second-largest rodent in the world. Which rodent is the biggest of all?

ANSWER _____

12. In the fall, beavers drag branches to the bottom of the pond near their lodge and push them into the mud. Why?

ANSWER _____

13. The doors to a beaver lodge are underwater, so you can only get in by diving. Why build it that way?

ANSWER _____

14. Beaver teeth are orange because of a metal mixed into the hard outer layer. That metal makes the teeth extra tough. Which metal is it?

ANSWER _____

15. My front paws are good at holding branches, but my back paws are big and wide with skin between the toes, like flippers. What are they called?

ANSWER _____

16. Underwater, beavers have built-in goggles: an extra see-through layer that slides over each eye. What is it?

ANSWER _____

17. Beavers are busiest when most people are asleep. When are they most active?

ANSWER _____

18. Beaver ponds make homes for fish, frogs, ducks and insects, and they can slow down floods. Because they reshape the land for other living things, scientists give beavers a special title. What is it?

ANSWER _____

19. This US state's nickname is "The Beaver State," and the beaver is its official state animal. Which state is it?

ANSWER _____

20. A beaver drags 4 branches on every trip and makes 9 trips each night. How many branches does it move in 5 nights?

ANSWER _____

Tricky riddles ★★★

21. A beaver can chew wood underwater without getting a mouthful of water. What closes behind its front teeth to make that possible?

ANSWER _____

22. A beaver combs its fur with a special tool it always carries on its back feet. What is it?

ANSWER _____

23. During the last Ice Age, a relative of today's beaver lived in North America and was about the size of a black bear. What is it called?

ANSWER _____

24. The longest beaver dam ever found is about half a mile long. It was spotted in 2007 using satellite pictures. Where is it?

ANSWER _____

25. How long can a beaver stay underwater on one breath?

ANSWER _____

26. How many kinds of beavers are alive in the world today?

ANSWER _____

27. Scientists found that one sound makes beavers want to start building or patching a dam right away. What sound is it?

ANSWER _____

28. In the 1600s and 1700s, beaver fur was so valuable that trappers traveled deep into North America for it. What fashionable item was it mostly made into?

ANSWER _____

29. Canada passed a law making the beaver an official symbol of the country. In what year did that happen?

ANSWER _____

30. What did the beaver say to the tree just before it fell?

ANSWER _____

Answers

Beaver Riddles · answer key · print or fold this page away before you hand out the sheet

1. **A beaver**
2. **A dam**
3. **A lodge**
4. **The tail**
5. **Incisors**
6. **A kit**
7. **Canada**
8. **A pond**
9. **Bark**
10. **Rodents**
11. **The capybara**
12. **To eat in winter.** When the pond freezes, they swim out under the ice to their food pile.
13. **To keep predators out.** Wolves and coyotes can't easily reach the entrance.
14. **Iron**
15. **Webbed feet**
16. **A clear eyelid.** Scientists call it a nictitating membrane.
17. **At night.** Beavers are mostly nocturnal.
18. **Ecosystem engineers**
19. **Oregon**
20. **180 branches. 4 × 9 = 36 a night, and 36 × 5 = 180.**
21. **Its lips**
22. **A split toenail.** Beavers use it like a comb to spread oil and keep their fur waterproof.
23. **The giant beaver**
24. **Wood Buffalo National Park, Canada**
25. **About 15 minutes**
26. **Two.** The North American beaver and the Eurasian beaver.
27. **Running water**
28. **Hats.** Beaver fur made a soft, waterproof felt.
29. **1975**
30. **"It's been nice gnawing you!"**

Need a hint? Every riddle has one at riddlepedia.com/beaver-riddles/, where you can also play them as a game.