

EXPLORE OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM. LEARN INSIDE OUR STATE.

Animals Have Homes Just Like Us! Walking Mountain Science Center

Explore the exhibits in the discovery center paying special attention to the beaver dam exhibit located in the back of the exhibit hall. Head outside to the nature loop and look for evidence of beavers - trees cut down near the base or logs chewed.

Background:

Beavers are nocturnal creatures, large herbivore rodents. Living in colonies, they build lodges to live in. They are still considered helpful because they create habitats for fish, turtles and other animals. Plus, the dams that they build help filter water as it goes through. To watch beavers in action view this National Geographic video. For a more in depth look at beavers, watch this Nat Geo Kids video on beavers.

Activity: Draw and label a beaver's home, called a lodge, seen here. Make sure to include the entrance holes and air shaft, where the dam is, and any chambers such as nursery, eating, food supply. Show off your art skills by drawing the sticks, parents and kits (baby beavers).





Additional Resources:

• Interested in learning more about how beavers build dams? Watch this PBS video.

