

BEAVERS

CONSTRUCTION EXPERTS



KATIE
LAJINESS



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AWESOME ANIMAL
POWERS

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THE BEAVER

The world is full of awesome, powerful animals. Beavers (BEE-vuhrs) live in wetlands throughout North and South America, Asia, and Europe.

Beavers are construction **experts**. They use their large teeth to chew on wood. Then they use the wood to build underwater dams.

DID YOU KNOW?

Beavers greet each other by nipping at the other's cheeks.

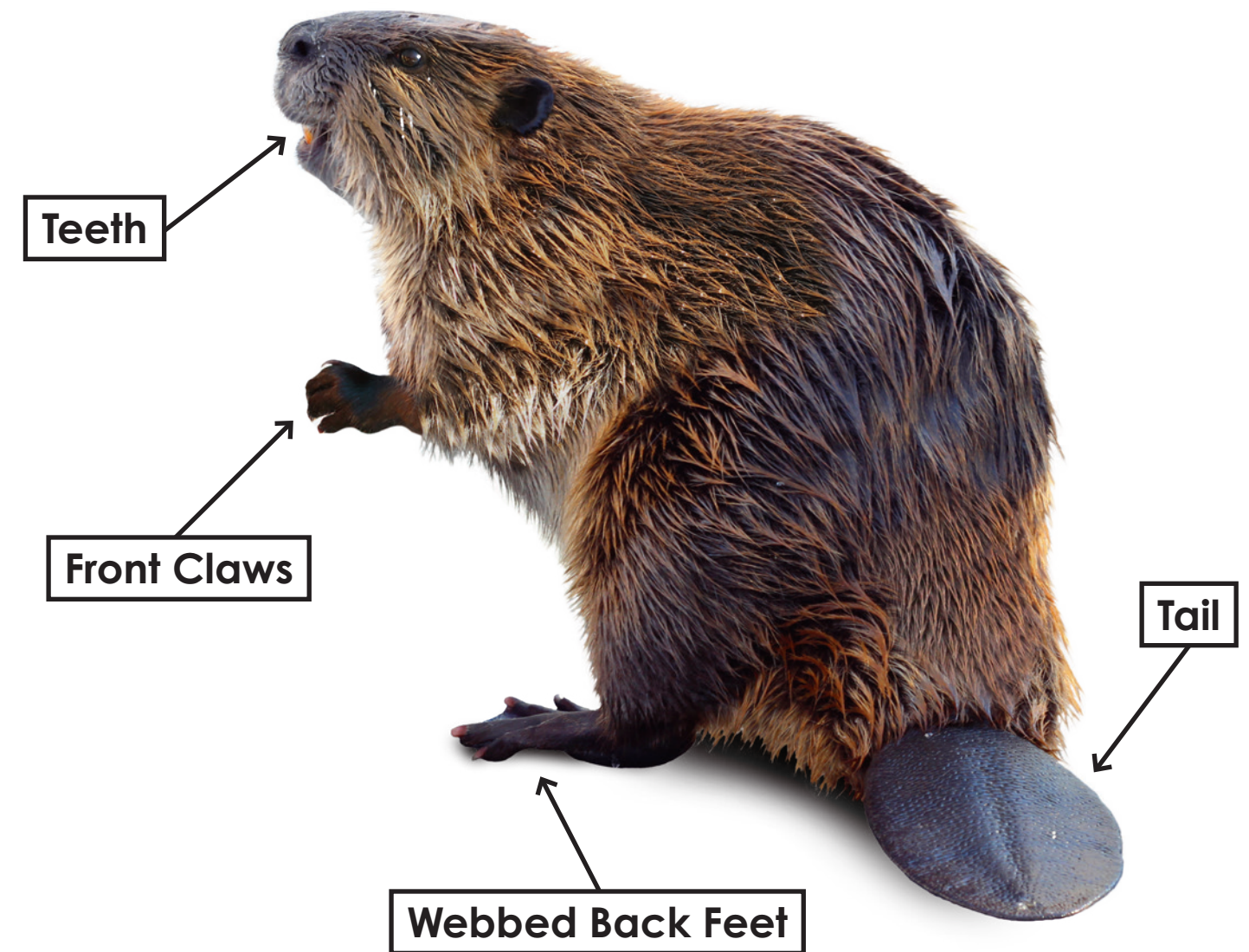


Beavers are the largest rodents in North America. They are in the same family as squirrels and mice.

BOLD BODIES

Beavers have amazing bodies. Their webbed back feet make them great swimmers. Strong claws on their front feet help them dig deep holes. And thick fur keeps them warm and dry, even underwater.

These rodents can grow to be up to four feet (1 m) long. They weigh between 30 and 60 pounds (14 to 27 kg).



THAT'S AWESOME!

Beavers are great builders. They knock down trees by chewing through the trunks. Then they use branches, logs, plants, stones, and mud to build a dam.

DID YOU KNOW?

The world's largest beaver dam is in Alberta, Canada.



Beavers' front teeth grow throughout their lives. So, they chew on wood to keep their teeth from getting too long.

Dams block the flow of a stream. On one side, the stream becomes a pond about six feet (2 m) deep.

Beavers pile sticks and logs to create a mound in the pond. On top of the mound, they build a **lodge**. That is where beaver families live.

The lodge is where beavers rest, stay warm, and care for their kits.



WHERE IN THE WORLD?

Beavers live in streams, rivers, **marshes**, and ponds. They mostly live in North America and Europe. But some are found in the southern tip of South America. Others live in western and eastern Asia.

 = WHERE BEAVERS LIVE



DAILY LIFE

Beavers spend their time eating, **grooming**, sleeping, or building. They gnaw on trees for food and to build dams. The beavers chew away at the trunk until the tree falls.

Beavers can chew through a six-inch (15 cm) tree in 15 minutes. Each year, one beaver can chew through hundreds of trees.

