

Build Your Own Beaver Dam

Materials:

- Paint trays
- Sticks and leaves
- Soil, Play-Doh, or clay
- Water

How to:

Break students up into small groups to work together to build their beaver dams. Invite students to get creative and think like a beaver as they try to build a dam that will successfully stop water from flowing down the river.

Once students have finished building their dams, gather everyone together to test them out, pouring water into the paint trays and seeing if the dams work.

After all of the dams have been tested, discuss with students what worked or didn't work about their designs. Did they think this was an easy or hard task? Hopefully this will inspire newfound appreciation for the engineering expertise and ecosystem services beavers provide!