

# Beavers at work

*Castor canadensis*



## Busy as a Beaver

Beavers are nature's construction crew! Beavers chew through trees and bushes so they can use the wood to build their homes on top of water. These homes are called dams. Dams help keep beavers safe from predators that live on land. Dams also act like walls, causing water to build up behind them.



*Iron in their teeth helps chew through trees*

## When Beavers Leave

Unfortunately, some areas lose their active beaver communities due to things like human construction, trapping, and changes to the water. When places lose beavers, they lose other plants and animals too. It is important when changing outside areas to make sure local beavers are protected.



Notice how the area in front of the dam has tall water loving plants

## Beavers have a green paw

This built-up water floods the land near the dam creating new areas for water-loving plants to grow. Because of beavers' great building skills, areas with beaver dams have more unique plants compared to areas without dams.



*Dragging branches to the water makes them easier to move*