

Audubon Center & Sanctuary

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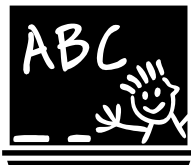


Beavers: Curriculum Integration Guide

Beavers (4th grade) - Curriculum Integration Guide

If you're the type of teacher who likes to use our programs in conjunction with your curriculum, this guide is for you! We hope you find it useful in planning.

Warm up Their Brains Before We Come



- **Pre-visit Activity:** Ask students to make a list of everything they know about beavers.

Activities and Ideas for Extending the Learning

- Have the students refer back to their pre-visit lists. Did they have any misinformation on their lists? Did they learn something new? What surprised them?
- Many of the things we take for granted have very interesting stories. Have kids research how something they wear is made: tee-shirts, ball-caps, hoodies.
- Come to Audubon to see evidence of beaver activity.

Books for Students

- *Beavers*, 1998, Deborah Hodge, 1-55074-679-0. Available at the Audubon. Beautiful children's book with illustrations of beavers, dams, lodges, and habitat.
- *Animal Tracking and Behavior*, 1986, Donald & Lillian Stokes, 0-316-81734-1. A great reference with a chapter devoted to each of several mammals that can be found in our area. The text is a little more grownup – this is a reference for teachers more than students. But it's GREAT!

Other Resources

- <http://www.whiteoak.org/learning/furhat.htm>: how beaver felt hats were made
- http://inventors.about.com/od/sstartinventors/a/Levi_Strauss.htm: the history of denim jeans

NYS Standard 4 - The Living Environment

Major Understanding: 3.1a Each animal has different structures that serve different functions in growth, survival, and reproduction.

7.1b Over time humans have changed their environment...

PA Environment & Ecology Standard

4.7.4 B.1 Explain how specific adaptations can help a living organism to survive.

4.8.4 C Explain how human activities may change the environment.

Objective of the Program

Students will learn interesting facts about the New York State mammal, the beaver. They will learn that because of a 300-year fashion, beavers were trapped nearly to extinction. They will also learn how reintroduction programs and conservation laws have made it possible for us to see beavers today.