Grade 4 Understanding Life Systems – Habitats and Communities

AMAZING BUILDERS

Beavers are intelligent builders. They build dams for protection, shelter, and food storage. Beaver dams, however, can significantly impact their habitats, both positively and negatively.

Impacts of Beaver Dams

Positive Impacts

- restoring wetlands
- removing pesticides from human agriculture
- providing nurseries for fish and frogs
- increasing land for vegetation

Negative Impacts

- destroying forests
- causing damage when a beaver dam bursts
- creating floods from storing too much water
- draining rivers and streams