

## Buil·derS at WOrk

The smar·test buil·derS in the a·nj·mal world are bea·verS. They live in lakeS and ri·verS, where there are treeS near·by. They cut the treeS down and eat the bark and twigS. Then they cut the treeS in·tO pie·ceS and build damS and homeS with them.

Bea·verS build their homeS be·side the wa·ter. A bea·ver's home iS called a lodge. It haS a slee·ping room o·ver the wa·ter and a store·room un·der that.

Bea·verS dO their wood·cut·ting with their teeth. The teeth wear down, but they keep gro·wing back aS long aS the a·nj·mal liveS.

Be·sideS be·ing ver·y good with wood, bea·verS swim well, tOO. Their back feet are web·bed. Their tailS are flat. Their web·bed feet and flat tailS help them swim. When a bea·ver iS a·fraid, it slapS the wa·ter with iTS tail to warn the o·ther bea·verS.