



# Living Things Change Their Environment Activity for Kids



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## Build a Dam DIY

 Duration: **30 min**

 Difficulty: **Medium**

 Cost: **\$0 to \$10**

Make a beaver dam to see how it blocks flowing water!

### Material List

- 1** Foil baking pan
- 1** Foil bread pan
- 1** Pitcher of water
- 1** Handful of sticks
- 1** Handful of leaves
- 1** Handful of rocks
- 1** Container of chocolate frosting
- 1** Plastic spoon
- 1** Pencil
- 2** Books

### Instructions

- 1** Use the pencil to poke 2 holes in one end of the bread pan.
  - 2** Stack 2 books next to the larger baking pan.
  - 3** Place the bread pan on the books and hang half of it over the baking pan.
  - 4** Take some chocolate frosting and coat the middle of the bread pan.
  - 5** Place some sticks and leaves on the frosted area.
  - 6** Place some rocks on top of the leaves and sticks to hold them down.
  - 7** Add more frosting to hold everything in place.
  - 8** Now test the dam by pouring water into the back part of the baking pan.
- Tips:** Your design may not work the first time. You can try putting the rocks on the bottom or using different materials. It may take a few tries.

### How It Works

Beavers use things in their environment to build dams in streams and rivers. They use mud like glue to hold everything together. When the water flows up to the dam it slows down and could even stop flowing. Beavers change their environment by flooding it. They do this to protect themselves from predators.