Beavers
Synopsis
K-1st

**MN Academic Standards**
supported during HNC program.
More standards can be supported with pre- and post-lesson activities.

**Science**
o.1.1.2.1 Observation of natural world
o.4.1.1 Observable characteristics
o.4.1.1.1 Observe plants and animals
o.4.1.1.2 Identify body parts of animals
o.4.1.1.3 Living vs nonliving
o.4.2.1.1 Natural systems have parts
1.1.1.1.1 Support answer with obs.
1.4.2.1.1 Animal needs for survival
1.4.2.1.2 Habitat provides for needs

**Social studies**
o.2.1.1.1 Need vs. want
1.2.3.3.1 Scarcity

**Language Arts**
o.8.1.1 D; o.8.3.3;
1.8.1.1 C, E; 1.8.3.3

**Authenticity**
Students are able to observe actual beaver signs of life within their natural habitat.

---

**Goals & Objectives**

**This program will:**
- Become familiar with the North American beaver’s life and habitat
- Explore and investigate signs of beavers
- Explore living and nonliving components in the local wetland

**Students will be able to:**
- Accurately identify signs of beaver activity
- Identify beaver body parts
- Describe how beaver bodies are similar/different to humans
- Identify two living and two nonliving parts of the wetland habitat

**Activities**

**In the classroom:**
- Watch a beaver puppet show. This will explore how beavers survive in the winter in their lodges.

**In the field:**
- Walk through Hartley Park searching for old or new beaver activity.
- Look for living and non-living things in the wetland habitat by using a scavenger hunt.
- Play a game that will help students understand how beaver bodies can be similar to humans and how they are different.
- Look at beaver pelt, skull, and/or diagram of a beaver lodge.
- Have a friendly competition to see who can replicate a beaver chew using carrots (be aware of student allergies).
- Build a beaver lodge in the woods

**Indoor options in case of bad weather**
- Look at a beaver fur, track, and skull
- Create a model or diagram of a beaver lodge
- Play Beaver Scramble (parachute game)