Name_____ Date_____

Awesome Animal Homes

Animals build safe places to sleep, eat, and raise their young. Some animals build homes that have different rooms, tunnels, and much more! Read on to learn about some awesome animal builders and their homes.

Mounds

Termites are insects that live in large groups called colonies. Some termites build mounds as their homes. Termite mounds are made with dirt and saliva. Termites build tunnels inside the mound. Termites travel through the tunnels. The tunnels help keep the termite mound cool. Some mounds can be more than 20 feet tall!

Nests

Cliff swallows are birds that live in large groups called colonies. Cliff swallows build nests with thousands of tiny balls of mud. They build their nests on the steep sides of cliffs or under bridges. It is hard for other animals to reach the nests in those places. So the nests are safe places to lay eggs and to raise young.

Burrows

Prairie dogs are rodents that live in big groups called towns. Prairie dogs dig burrows as their homes. Burrows are underground tunnels. Prairie dogs sleep and raise their young in small rooms inside the burrows. Some prairie dog towns are many miles wide and are homes to millions of prairie dogs!

Lodges

Beavers are rodents that live in small groups called families. Some beavers build lodges in rivers or ponds as their homes. They use logs, tree branches, and mud to build a lodge. A beaver lodge has one room that is above water. Beavers have to swim underwater to get inside their lodge.

Questions

_____1. One benefit for prairie dogs to live underground is that _____ .

A. it is a safe place to raise their young.
B. it keeps them away from other prairie dogs.
C. the burrows get lots of sunlight.
D. all of the above

_____2. _____ live in groups called colonies.

A. Termites
B. Cliff swallows
C. Both termites and cliff swallows
D. Neither termites nor cliff swallows

_____3. Beavers build their homes in the middle of a river, because

A. it is a warm place.
B. it is a hard place for its predators to get to.
C. they like to chew on trees.
D. beavers like to swim.

_____4. _____ use dirt and saliva to build a home.

A. Prairie dogs
B. Cliff swallows
C. Beavers
D. Termites

LIVEWORKSHEETS