# Can Beavers Help Fight Floods?

## Instructions for Teachers & Task Leaders

**Scene Setting**

Beavers have returned to Scotland! By building dams, they slow rivers, create wetlands, and help reduce flooding. Ecologists study how these animals change landscapes and support other species.

**Activity: Mini-Dam Challenge**

Work in small groups to build a mini beaver dam in a foil tray or gutter.

- Collect/use sticks, moss, stones, or clay to build your structure.
- Pour water into the tray on one side of the dam and tilt the tray to see if your dam slows or stops the flow.
- Test different designs - which works best?

**Careers Spotlight: Beaver Ecologist**

- Studies how beavers live and build.
- Monitors water and wildlife changes.
- Needs observation, science, and patience outdoors.

**Curriculum Links**

- Science: Habitats, adaptation, ecosystems
- Geography: Rivers, water cycle
- PSHE: Sustainability and resilience

**Reflection**

Why do you think people call beavers “nature’s engineers”?

Green Jobs for Nature