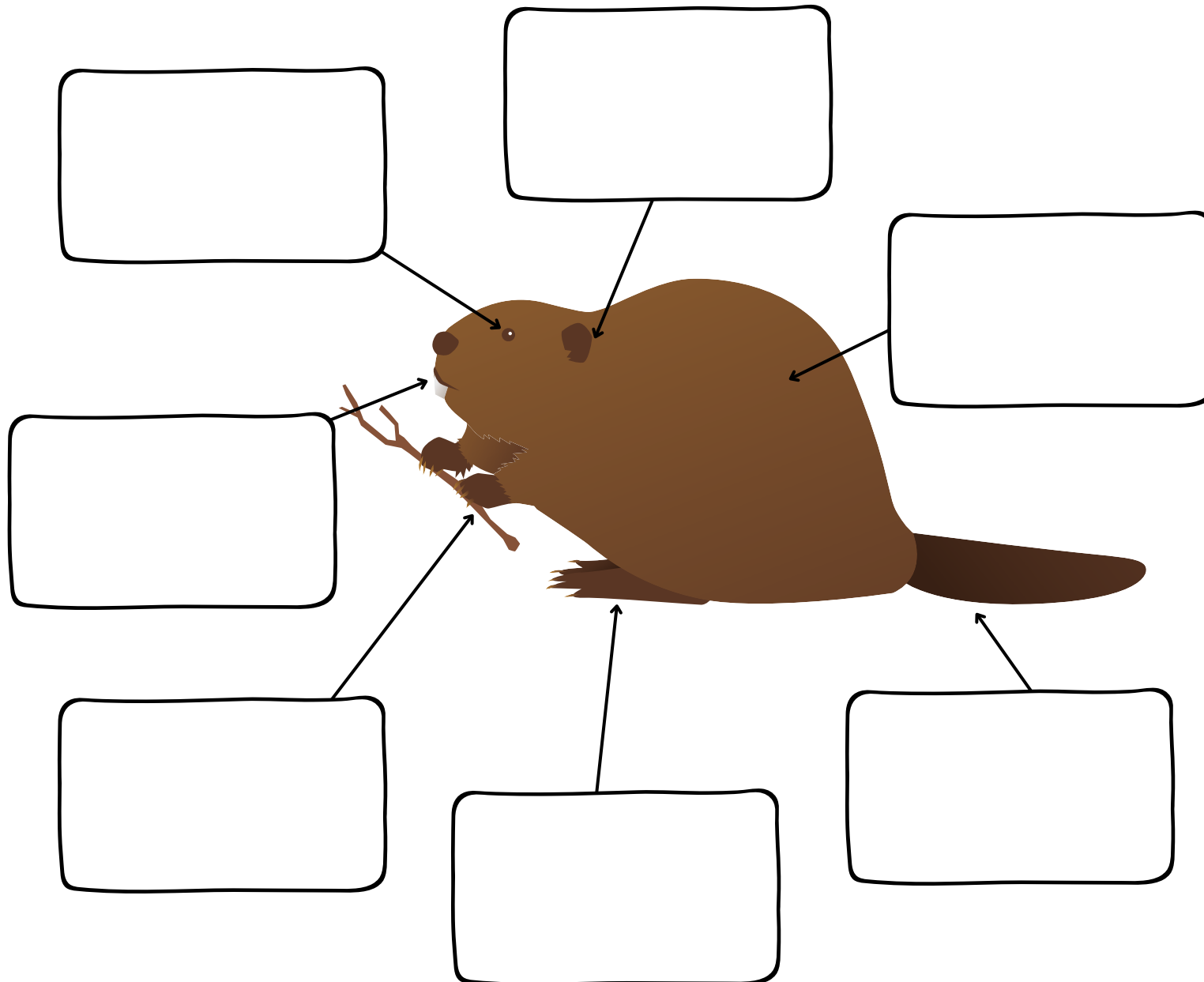


# Beaver adaptations



**Write the adaptation in the matching box:**

Transparent eyelids, so they can see underwater

Ears with a special flap, that keeps out water

Thick oily waterproof fur

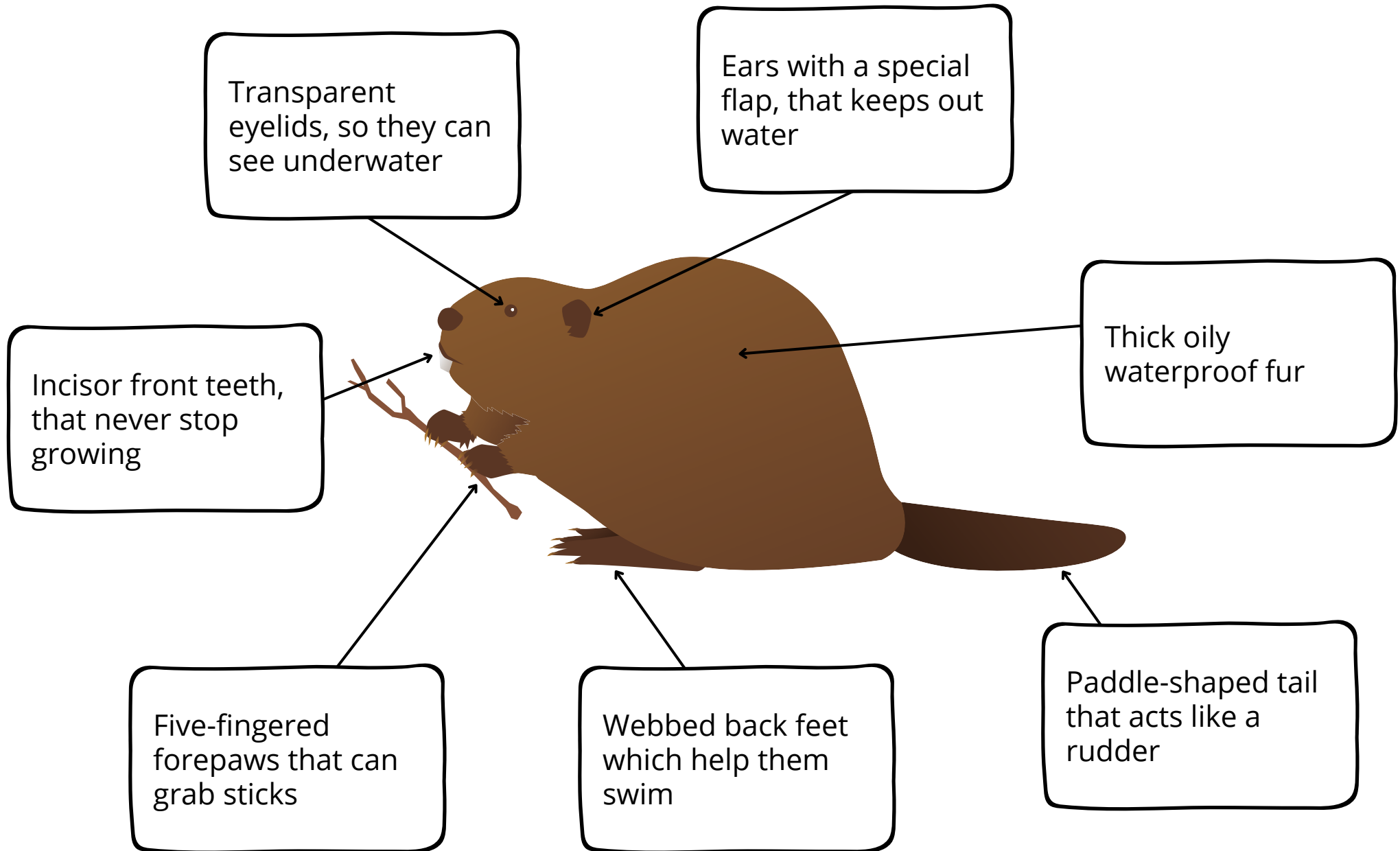
Paddle-shaped tail that acts like a rudder

Incisor front teeth, that never stop growing

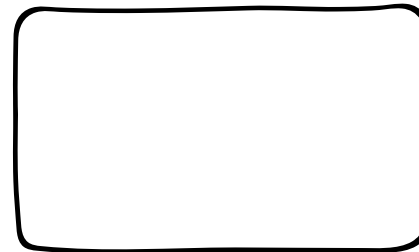
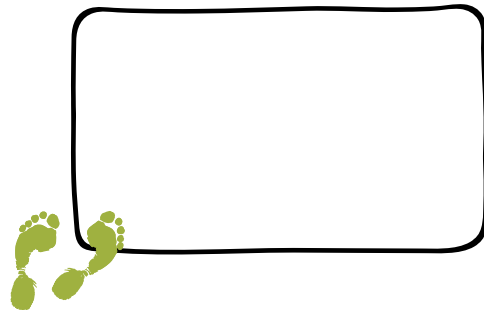
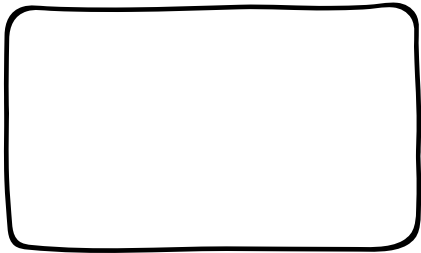
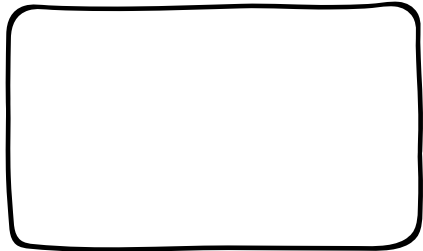
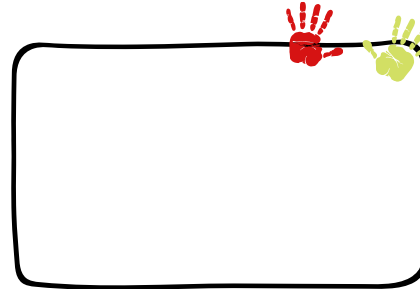
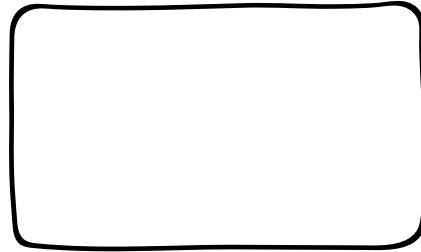
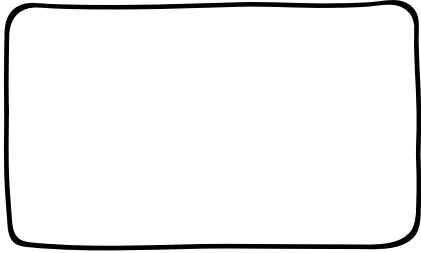
Five-fingered forepaws that can grab sticks

Webbed back feet which help them swim

# Beaver adaptations



# Human adaptations



**Draw a picture of yourself in the middle where the beaver was on the previous page.**

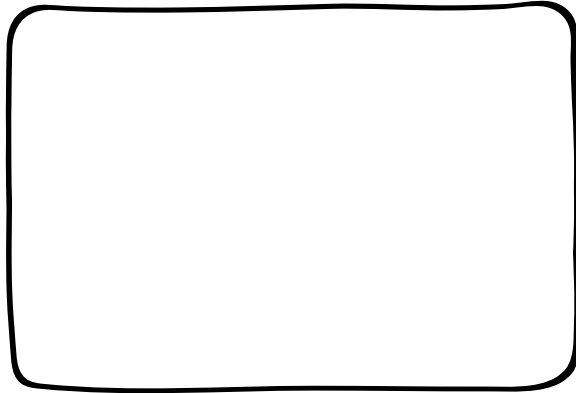
Can you label your own special features (adaptations) and compare them with the beavers?

# Beavers vs humans



Beavers have anal glands that secrete oil called **castoreum**. They use this oil to keep their fur waterproof.

Their back feet each have one adapted claw which has fine grooves splits and ridges in it which acts like a comb to spread the oil through their fur all over their body.



**What do you do and use to keep your hair in good condition?**

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The beaver's strong incisor front teeth continue to grow for their whole life. The teeth wear down when they are chewing on trees.

**How are human teeth different?**

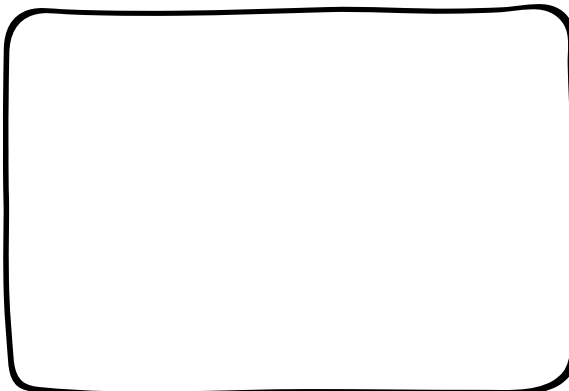
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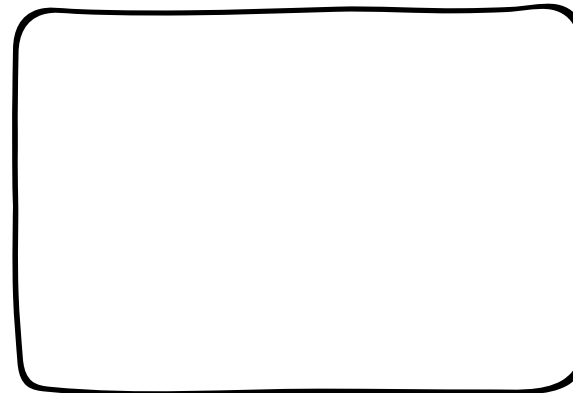
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A beaver's nose, ears and eyes are all aligned, which means they can swim with them above the water for their best use while the rest of their body is underwater.



**What do you do when you go swimming?**

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A beaver's fur consists of a short, very dense layer of underfur that traps air next to the beaver's skin to keep it warm. Over this layer are longer, coarse guard hairs which are oiled to keep the beaver waterproof.

**How do you keep warm and dry?**

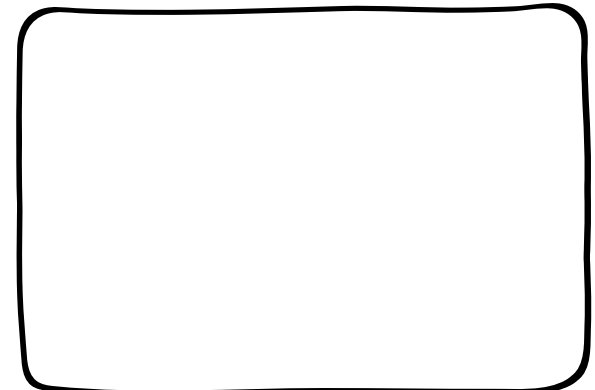
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# Beavers vs humans



A beaver's flat, scaly tail has many uses. They use it as a rudder to steer while swimming and during winter it stores fat they can use as energy. They can also alert their family to danger by slapping their tail on the surface of the water, making a loud splash.

**If you had to warn your friends or family, what would you do?**

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Beavers can hold their breath for about 15 minutes underwater in case they need to hide from predators. When they go underwater, their ears and nose shut to keep water out, and transparent eyelids help the beaver see underwater.

**How long can you hold your breath?  
What might you use underwater to help you see?**

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Beavers have hand-like forepaws with an opposable digit like our thumb which makes it easy for them to grab sticks and mud.

The beaver's back feet are large and have toes that are connected by webbing. This makes them like paddles when swimming.

**What things can you use your feet for?**

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