



San Angelo State Park

AMERICAN BEAVER

Castor canadensis



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Rodents are characterized by their ever-growing incisors. Since their front teeth never stop growing, they have to gnaw on wood to wear them down and keep them sharp.

Beavers are true vegetarians, eating leaves, bark, twigs, sprouts, fruits and buds of shrubs and trees, as well as aquatic plants.

They are excellent swimmers able to travel at about 5 miles per hour in the water. Helping them to accomplish this are their webbed feet and flat, paddle-like tail that they use as a rudder.

A beaver can stay underwater for approximately 15 minutes before coming up for air!

The nose and ears of a beaver have valves that close like trap doors when they go underwater.