

## Bradley builds a better dam



Frankie the flamingo and Bradley the beaver were chatting about the time Frankie pulled Bradley's dam apart and they went surfing down Sameera the stickleback's river. "It was soooooo much fun," declared Frankie. "We should do it again!" Bradley looked a bit doubtful. "You do know it only happened because that was my first dam and I had made a big mistake by stopping all the water?" "Yes, I know," replied Frankie, "but it's OK to make mistakes. When engineers make mistakes they learn from them."

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What do you think Bradley's mistake was?

- a) He should have made his dam from jelly.
- b) He should have painted his dam bright blue with yellow spots.
- c) He should have made his dam more 'leaky' so that some water could get through.
- d) He should have used concrete instead of logs and branches.



**Did you know?** Beavers build their dams to create a pond of deep, quiet water, where they can build their home or lodge. The dam slows down the flow of the river, so that their home does not wash away. Beaver dams always let some of the water through and are good at preventing flooding.