

Proposal for BEAVER Emoji

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Lee of Emojination

Date: March 7, 2019

Emoji Name: BEAVER

Keywords: Beaver, Dam

Reference Emoji: ELEPHANT

Sort Order: in the ANIMAL category, after OTTER



72x72

18x18

Credit: Anna Zeng. Free for use in conjunction with this proposal.

Abstract

This proposal requests the addition of the BEAVER emoji to the Unicode emoji library. Beavers are a suborder of rodents mostly restricted to North America, who are hunted for their fur. The fur trade was a significant factor in the selection of the beaver as an official emblem of Canada, which extends back at least as far as the 17th century, where the beaver appeared on the Montreal coat of arms. However, outside of Canada, the beaver has many different meanings culturally. College and high school sports teams use the beaver as a mascot. As well, the beaver is sometimes used as slang to make reference women's vagina. Among lesbians, references to beavers are inside jokes that carry no pejorative insult.

We do not have a strong position on the visual representation of BEAVER, but believe it should exist in some form to fill semantic gaps inside the emoji set.

Images

We are offering one version of a BEAVER emoji, but we are open to other designs.

Introduction

The beaver is an interesting nocturnal animal that is known for building really cool dams and burrows. It lives above water, but is sometimes known for creating underwater lodges. As a result, beavers have very distinctive features- buck teeth, webbed feet, and a wide tail- that make it recognizable worldwide.

Moreover, the beaver represents the nation of Canada, who often use it in marketing materials to tourists. As the national emblem of Canada, the beaver is synonymous worldwide with Canadian culture.

As well, among LGBTQ+ people, beavers are a playful subcultural symbol and is invoked in jokes.

Names

CLDR short name

Recommended name: beaver

CLDR keywords

Recommended keywords: beaver | dam | rodent

Selection Factors Inclusion

A. Compatibility

Not applicable.

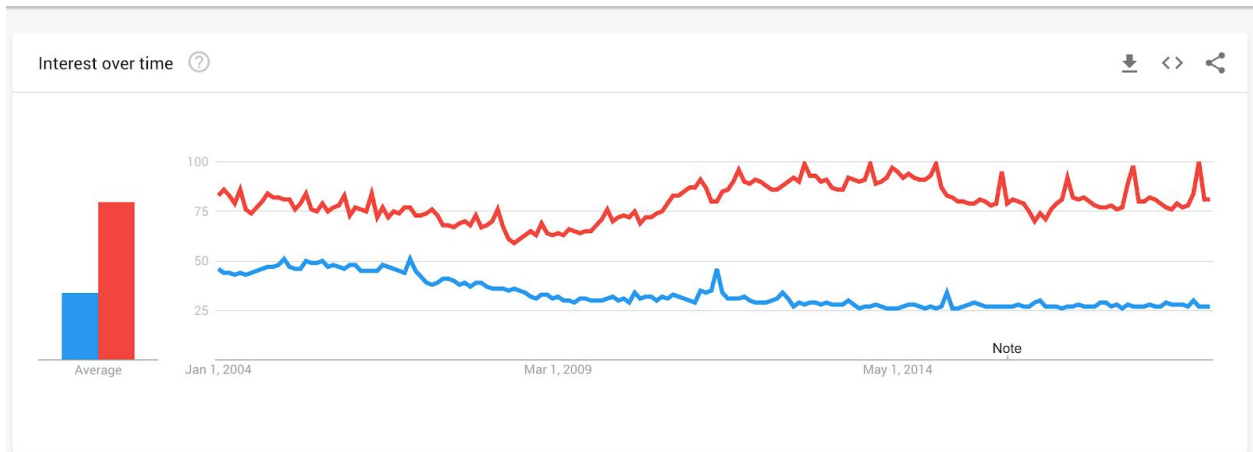
B. Expected Usage Level

B1. Frequency

The following Google Trends data shows that usage of the term "beaver" is comparable to "elephant":

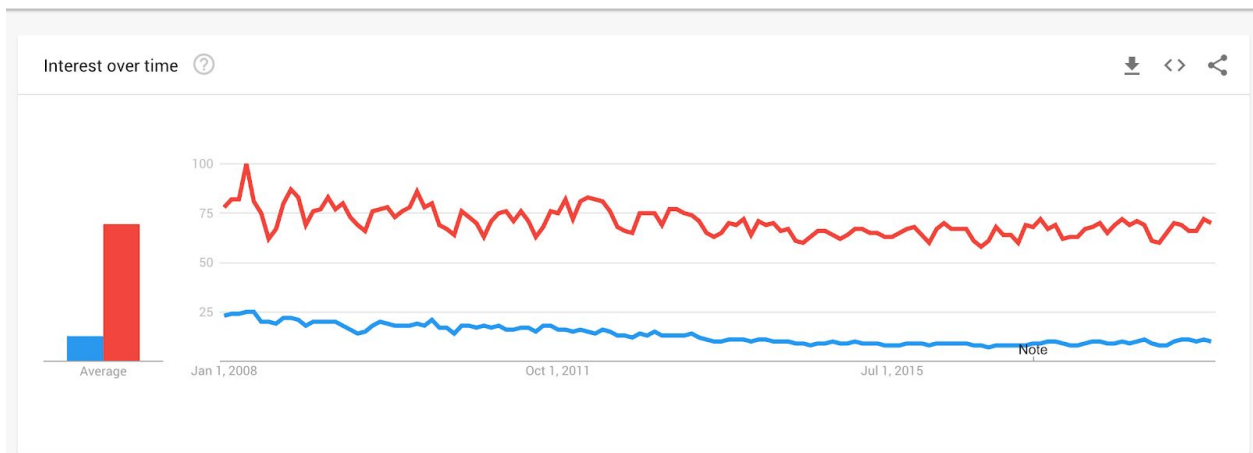
● beaver Search term	● elephant Search term	+ Add comparison
--	---	------------------

Worldwide ▾ 2004 - present ▾ All categories ▾ Web Search ▾



● beaver Search term	● elephant Search term	+ Add comparison
--	---	------------------

Worldwide ▾ 2008 - present ▾ All categories ▾ Image Search ▾

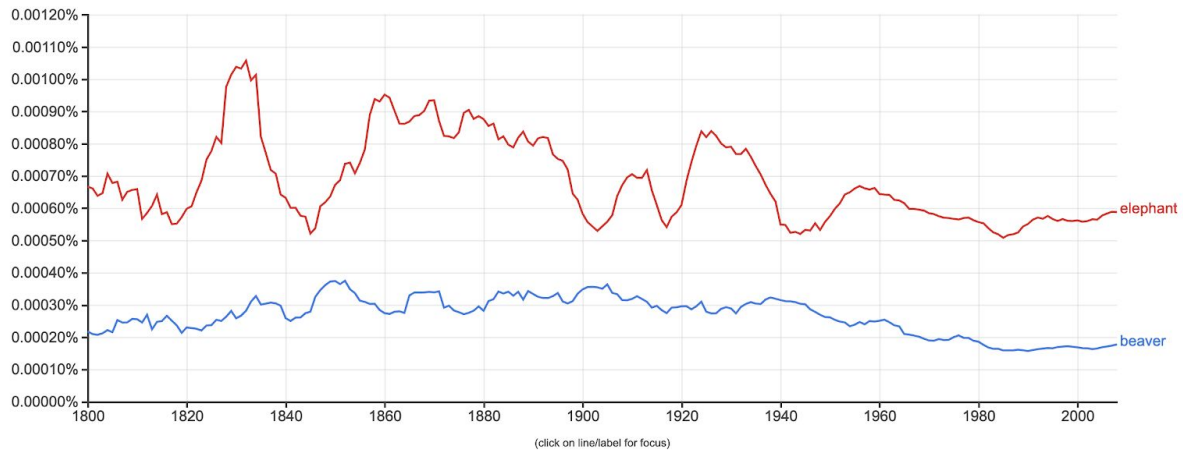


Google Ngram also demonstrates the historically comparable strength of “beaver” in comparison to “elephant”:




Google Books Ngram Viewer

Graph these comma-separated phrases: ☐ case-insensitive

between and from the corpus with smoothing of [Search lots of books](#)






In a regular Google Search, “beaver” delivers results in the same magnitude as “elephant”:



[All](#) [Images](#) [Videos](#) [News](#) [Maps](#) [More](#) [Settings](#) [Tools](#)

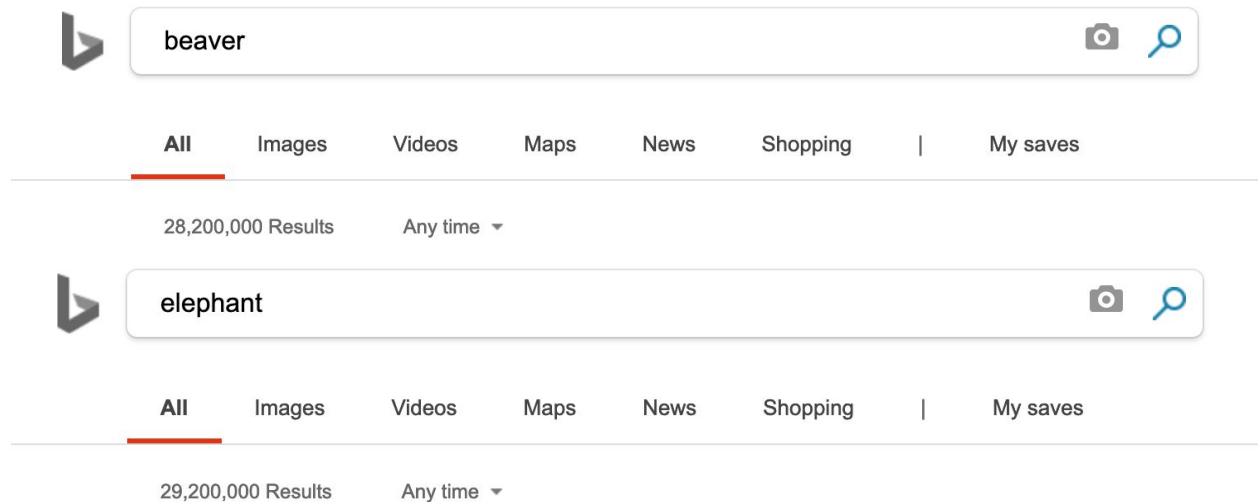
About 189,000,000 results (0.44 seconds)



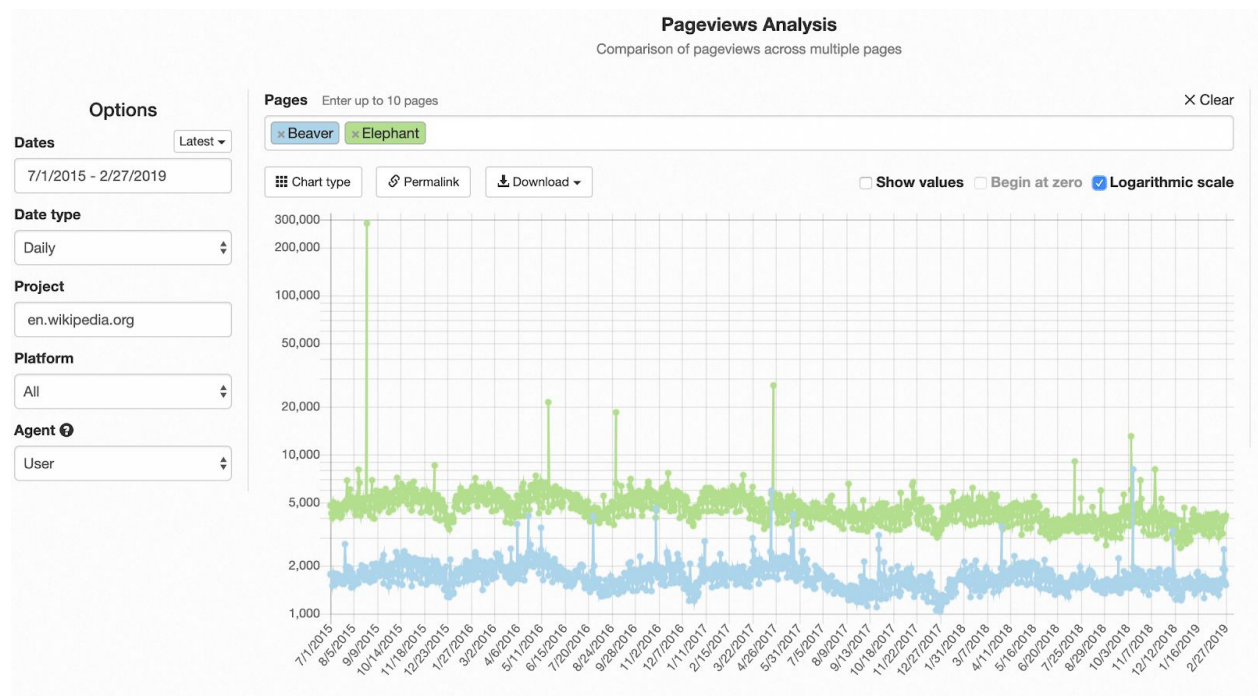
[All](#) [Images](#) [News](#) [Videos](#) [Shopping](#) [More](#) [Settings](#) [Tools](#)

About 683,000,000 results (0.59 seconds)

“Beaver” delivers almost the same amount as “elephant” in a regular Bing Search:



Wikipedia Pageviews Analysis shows that “beaver” is commensurate with “elephant” as well:






B2. Multiple Usages

We expect the BEAVER emoji would be used in multiple non-literal ways including:



- Canada
- Lesbians

B3. Use in Sequences

Below are examples of the BEAVER emoji:

1. Inuendo: “don’t touch my ”
2. Dam jokes: “Don’t call me a  but I definitely don’t give a dam!”
3. Teeth jokes: “I just went to the dentist ”

C. Image Distinctiveness

The existing emoji most similar in appearance is the CHIPMUNK emoji () , and perhaps also the RACCOON emoji (). However, these animals are not related and the images are sufficiently distinct.

D. Completeness

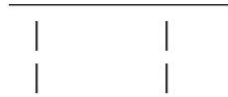
The BEAVER would be a welcome addition to the existing set of animals.

E. Frequently Requested



Gabriel @gabrielmcamp · Feb 27

Yeah bro just put my new table on a set of castors



I now see that there is no **beaver emoji**, rendering my joke pointless.

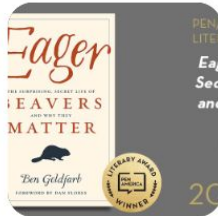


1



Salamander Sam @SammyKSampson · 18h

This book sounds so interesting!!! 🌳 (Tree for lack of **beaver emoji**)



PEN America @PENAmerican

Ben Goldfarb wins the 2019 PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award for *Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter*! #PENawards

Show this thread



1



Gail St Louis @gail_st · Feb 24

Would you like to see a **Beaver Emoji** added to Twitter's **Emoji** List?!

[@Twitter](#) [@TwitterSupport](#)



1



Sarage @sarahcpjones · Feb 21

P.s. no **beaver emoji**? Sad.



Show this thread



Christin Hu @upinthenimbus · Feb 19

[insert **beaver emoji** here]



Emily Fairfax @EmilyFairfax

As a scientist I've had an "elevator speech" prepared for a few years now.

This year I made an "elevator video" & let me tell you:...



Ratatosk @Ratatosk4 · Feb 22

Replying to @sosomanysarahs @ellle_em

Yes! I have been campaigning for a **#BeaverEmoji**, but @canada is too lazy to do the @Unicode paperwork. **#PowerToTheRodents!**



Sarah @sosomanysarahs · Feb 22

Replying to @Ratatosk4 @ellle_em and 2 others

There absolutely should be a **beaver emoji**. They seem like they'd be very easy to make a recognizable icon for, and I can think of many standard uses and at least one...non-standard...use for an **emoji**.



Pitman21 @pitnlala · Feb 22

Hey @AppleSupport can we get a **beaver emoji** in the next iOS update? Because...ya know....**beavers**. pic.twitter.com/nXnYPJSOR5





Alison @AlmostAnthro · Feb 24

Replying to @ashleyastewart1

Oh definitely the **beaver** (not pictured, because THERE'S NO **BEAVER EMOJI** 😡😂)



1



T2Va @T2Va · Feb 24

Replying to @HadleyFreeman

So cool! One of my classmates remembers coaching her in gymnastics. We're feeling very motherly over on FB (and once again regretting the lack of **beaver emoji**).



liz13zie 🐱 @wtfoxliz13zie · Feb 19

#NewProfilePic tf why is there no **beaver emoji**?? pic.twitter.com/P2RrGowyua



1



1



rez donkey @DeadDogLake · 27 Dec 2018

When we going to get a **beaver emoji**?



3



7



42



Jordan E. Rutter, M.Sc. @JERutter · 5 Jun 2018

Why is there no moose or **beaver emoji**?!? How am I supposed to adequately text with a Canadian?!?



20



13



153



Rebel Elle @RebelEll · 15 May 2018

Pretty sexist that there's an eggplant **emoji** but still no **beaver**



34



107



306



Selection Factors Exclusion

F. Overly Specific

The beaver is a common animal found in many regions of the world.

G. Open Ended

There would be no obvious vacancies in animals section created by the addition of the beaver emoji.

H. Already Representable

There are no emoji that specifically represents a beaver.

I. Logos, brands, UI icons, signage, specific people, deities

The beaver cannot be trademarked because it is a universal object/idea.

J. Transient

Beavers show no signs of extinction

K. Faulty Comparison

There is nothing to compare to the beaver.

Sort location

Category: animals

We suggest that the BEAVER emoji appear after the OTTER

Other Information

N/A

Character Properties

The other character properties are suggested to be defined as follows.

General Category: So

Canonical Combining Class: 0

Bidirectional Class: ON

Decomposition Type: Decomposition Mapping:

Numeric Type:

Numeric Value:

Bidirectional Mirrored: N Unicode 1 Name:

ISO Comment:

Simple Uppercase Mapping: Simple Lowercase Mapping: Simple Titlecase Mapping:

Author Bios

Joan Donovan (joandonovan@gmail.com) married a Canadian woman.

Nathalie Reid (Nathalie.reid@mail.mcgill.ca) is a proud Canadian lesbian.

Theo Schear (tschear@gmail.com) builds bridges not dams.

Jennifer 8. Lee (jenny@emojination.org) loves the fact that MIT's mascot is the beaver.

Anna Zeng (contact@annazeng.com) now has an entire pinterest board of semi-aquatic rodents.