**IditaRead**

**This fun reading incentive program is great for kids of all ages!**

**GOAL**:

 1. Read 1,049 minutes or pages appropriate to each student’s reading level.

**PROCEDURE**:

 1. Explain to the students that they will compete in their own Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. Their race will be a **reading** race.

 2. Each student draws a musher ‘s name from entries on the Iditarod website: www.iditarod.com. Each day during the race, they’ll try to read faster (pages or minutes) than the number of miles covered by the musher they have drawn.

 3. Teachers will track each student’s progress on a large map of Alaska. (Tracked by daily visits to the website during the race.) The goal is for students to **read** faster than their musher is traveling down the trail.

 4. Students select their books before the ‘vet check.’ Teachers will decide if the student’s books are “healthy” (grade/ability level).

 5. As students **read** to each checkpoint, they’re responsible for logging in their time and having it checked by a race marshal (teacher).

**MATERIALS:**

 1. Large map of Alaska with Iditarod Trail & checkpoints clearly marked.

 2. Legend listing distances between checkpoints.

 3. Name pins/tags to mark students’ **reading** progress on the trail.

 4. Sleds or dogs (felt or construction paper) to mark progress of mushers.

 5. Iditarod **Reading Log** for each student.

 6. **LOTS OF BOOKS!**

**OBJECTIVES:**

 1. Encourage recreational **reading**.

 2. Develop an interest in history and geography of Alaska.

 3. Encourage completion of a project.