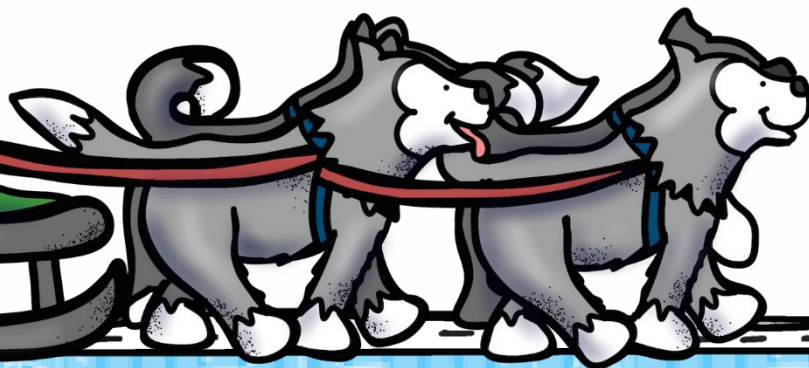


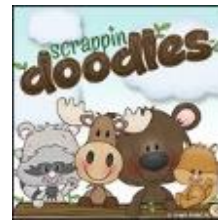
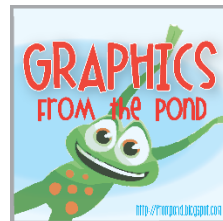
Iditarod Word
of the Week



Iditarod Word of the Week

This is an activity that can be done each week year round or just around Iditarod time. There are 18 terms in total. I put all the terms on construction paper and then laminated them so I can use them year after year. I post the word of the week on my front board so the whole class can see it. Students will learn the word and definition by the end of the week. Every few weeks I go over all the words we have done so far, so they don't forget them. When it comes to Iditarod time, they already know the lingo!

Credits—





Iditarod Word
of the Week





Mush! Hike! Let's Go!



commands to get the team started



Dog Mushing



a sport or transport method powered by dogs





Booties



a type of sock that is made to protect the dog's feet from small cuts and sores



Fee

command to
turn right



Haw

command to
turn left





Gang Line



the line that connects the sled to the team of dogs



Lead Dog



Dog who runs in front of the others.
Generally must be both intelligent and fast.





Snow Hook



Heavy piece of metal attached to a sled by line. The snow hook is embedded in the snow in order to hold the team and sled for short period of time



Swing Dog



Dog that runs directly behind the leader. Further identified as the right or left swing, depending on which side of the gang line he is positioned on. His job is to “swing” the team in turns or curves.



Wheel Dog



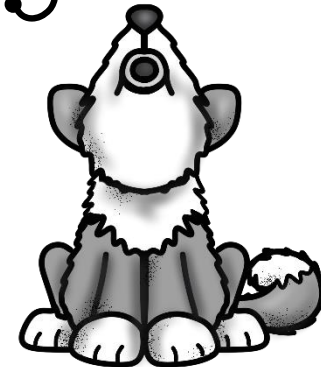
Dogs that run directly in front of the sled. Their job is to pull the sled out and around corners or trees.



Dropped Dog



a dog that a musher dropped from his team at a checkpoint. The dog is cared for at the checkpoint before being flown back to Anchorage.

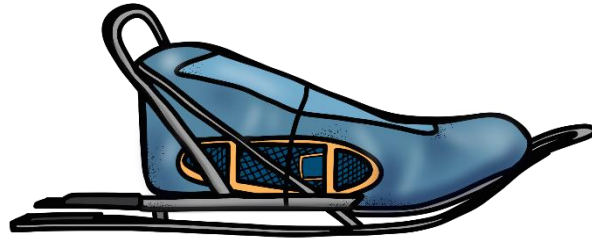




Dog in Basket



Tired or injured dog that is carried in the sled



Handler



A much-needed assistant to the musher





Tug Line



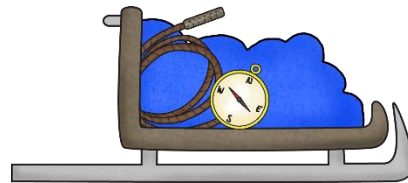
The line that connects the rear of the dog's harness to the gang line (or towline)



Slats



Thin sheets of wood which make up the bottom of the sled basket





Whoa



The term mushers use to stop their team—used pretty universally by mushers.



Team Dogs



Dogs in the middle of the team. Dogs that are not the lead, wheel, or swing dogs.





Iditarod



A 1,049 mile long dog sled race that is held in Alaska every March. The race starts in Anchorage and ends in Nome.



Husky



A breed of dog that is typically used in dog mushing

