

**D** is for 

# Dog Care

The dogs of the Iditarod are some of the best cared for dogs in the world. Before the race each dog must be checked by a veterinarian.

The veterinarians check the dogs for many things including heart health, proper hydration, and weight. Then, along the trail there are 55 veterinarians, including head vet Dr. Stu Nelson. Nelson has been with the Iditarod for the last 25 years and is well trained in husky care. The dogs of the Iditarod eat top of the line meat during the race; usually consuming about 10,000 calories per day while racing.

