The Iditarod Alphabet 2017

## is for the storic Trail

Iditarod is the name of an old gold mining town which existed during the last gold rush in the early 1900s. Joe Redington, Sr.,founder of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, lived along the Historic Iditarod Trail, and was friends with the last mail carrier between Rainy Pass and Knik, Lee Ellexson. Ellexson showed Joe the trail back in the 1950s, and Joe's dream of preserving the trail began. Joe loved history and was determined to get the Historic Iditarod Trail on the map. In 1978 the Iditarod Historic Trail became a recognized trail by Congress, and is one of only 16 trails that hold the prestigious distinction.

