

Iditarod Magazine

A Final Writing Unit

Developed by:

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Discipline / Subject:

Language Arts—Writing

Topic:

Writing: Descriptive, Compare/Contrast, Persuasive, and Problem/Solution

Grade Level:

Intermediate/Middle School Grades—4th, 5th, 6th

Resources / References / Materials Teacher Needs:

Project Rubric

Large White Paper

Lesson Summary

In this lesson students will create an Iditarod magazine with four articles in it: descriptive, compare/contrast, persuasive, and problem/solution.

Students will also include pictures, a glossary, and an activity for the reader to complete.

Standards Addressed: Common Core State Standards

4th Grade:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2

Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.4

Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.5

With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.7

Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.

Learning Objectives:

- 1.) Students will compose 4 writing pieces.
- 2.) Students will use proper grammar and punctuation in their writing.

Assessment:

Students will create an Iditarod themed magazine.

Procedural Activities:

- 1.) Begin by reviewing the Iditarod race: who won, who was the red lantern, who won the different awards, who didn't make it to the finish line, what was the weather like, etc.
- 2.) Explain to students that they are going to create an Iditarod themed magazine with 4 different writing pieces. Give examples of each kind of writing.
- 3.) Allow students to take time to write each piece (we took a day per writing piece). They should also peer edit their writing.
- 4.) Once all the writing is done allow students to add the additional requirements to their magazines.
- 5.) Once all magazines are done students can share them with one another.

Materials Students Need:

Handouts—"Iditarod Magazine Rubric"
Computers for research

Technology Utilized to Enhance Learning:

Iditarod Website

Modifications for Special Learners/ Enrichment Opportunities:

- 1.) Younger students can work in small groups to create a magazine.
- 2.) Older students can write longer or additional writing pieces.