Balto and Togo Character Study

Developed by: Katie Kunze

Discipline / Subject: Language arts/social studies

Topic: Balto, Togo, and the serum run

Grade Level: 4th Grade

Resources / References / Materials/ Teacher Needs:

~The Cruelest Miles by: Gay and Laney Salisbury (Background knowledge)

~Alaska map showing the serum run route

~Computer/tablet

~Balto exhibit on-line https://www.cmnh.org/balto

Lesson Summary: Students will utilize a variety of resources to understand the events of the serum run of 1925.

Standards Addressed: (Local, State, or National)

- 1. RI.4.6- Compare and contrast a firsthand and secondhand account of the same event or topic; describe the differences in focus and the information provided.
- 2. RI.4.9- Integrate information from two texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.

Learning Objectives:

- 1. Students will be able to describe the events of the serum run.
- 2. Students will be able to utilize technology to present their ideas.

Assessment:

Final project/presentation representing the story of the serum run.

Procedural Activities

- 1. Using the online Balto exhibit from the Cleveland Natural History Museum, introduce the story of the serum run.
- 2. Explain to the students that there are a variety of books that describe the events as well and that they don't all tell the story the same way.
- 3. Ask the students to consider the events of the 1925 serum run through these variety of sources. Use the following questions to guide the discussion:
 - -Who was involved in the run and why did they choose to participate?
 - -What was the cause of the run and why was it so important?
 - -Why is Balto more recognized that Togo for their accomplishments?
 - -How did the serum run affect the sport of dog sledding to this day?
- 4. Using these questions, have students research Balto, Togo, and the events of the serum run.
- 5. Upon completing the research, students will complete a presentation using PowerPoint or Google Slides.
- 6. Presentations will be shared with the class, showcasing the information learned about Balto, Togo, and the serum run.

Materials Students Need:

- ~Balto and Togo books
- ~Computer/tablet
- ~Notebook/pencil (to record information from the sources)
- ~Poster board (if not using technology for presentation)

Technology Utilized to Enhance Learning:

- ~Computer/tablet to develop final presentation
- ~PowerPoint to create presentation

Other Information:

~The animated film *Balto* can also be used as a tool with this plan.

Modifications for Special Learners/ Enrichment Opportunities:

- ~Final project can be done as a poster or diorama if technology is not available.
- ~Final project can also be done as speech or other form of verbal presentation.

Additional Information

Cover	Title	Author	ISBN
The HEROIC STORY of DOGS and MEN in a RACE Against an EPIDEMIC THE CRUEILEST WILLES GAY SALISBURY AND LANEY SALISBURY	The Cruelest Miles	Gay Salisbury & Laney Salisbury	0-393-32570-9
Debie S. MILER ILLINITARIDES BY JON VAN 791E M. SCHOLASTIC	The Great Serum Race	Debbie S. Miller	0-8027-7723-6
Alaska's Dog Heroes True Stories of Remarkable Canines Shelley Gill Charcacly, Robin James	Alaska's Dog Heroes	Shelley Gill	978-1-57061-947-
TOGO THE SLED DOG THE SLED DOG THE SHADE CANCER TO THE ALL COMPRISES SE ENTED BY JOH L. WITHER BR	Togo The Sled Dog and Other Great Animal Stories of the North	Joe L. Wheeler	978-0-8163-2431- 6

TOGO BY KATE KLISHO • RILESTRATIO BY TEM JESSELL	Dog Diaries: Togo	Kate Klimo	978-0-385-37335- 7
TOGO Robert J. Blake	Togo	Robert J. Blake	978-0-399-23381- 4
BALTO MEGHAN MCCARTHY	The Incredible Life of Balto	Meghan McCarthy	978-0-375-84460- 7
STEP INTO READING redding on pur our THE BRAVEST DOG EVER The True Story of BALTO By Natalie Standiford - Illustrated by Donald Cook	The Bravest Dog Ever: The True Story of Balto	Natalie Standiford	0-394-89695-5

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How a team too some			
by Elizabeth Cody Kimmel			
MACIC	Magic Tree House	Mary Pope	0385386443
MAGIC TREE HOUSE	Fact Tracker:	Osborne	000000770
FACT TRACKER		Osborne	
Dogsledding	Dogsledding and		
and Extreme Sports	Extreme Sports		
A SOMPLETON COMPANIES TO MAKE THE SOME			
Balto of the Blue Down Mary Pope Osborne and Natalie Pope Boyce			