Lesson Plan Title: Flags of the Iditarod – Older Students

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Discipline / Subject: geography

Topic: world geography

Grade Level: 4th – 10th

Resources / References / Materials Teacher Needs:
Photo of Iditarod Headquarters sign
Blank outline world maps:
https://www.waterproofpaper.com/printable-maps/world/map-of-the-world.pdf
Flag /country table worksheet to tally mushers

Lesson Summary: Students match the flags on the Iditarod Headquarters sign to countries represented in the Iditarod. Students then create a graph and plot amounts of mushers who have competed from those countries.

Standards Addressed: (Local, State, or National)
1. CCSS. ELA - The K-5 standards strongly recommend that texts—both within and across grades—be selected to support students in systematically developing knowledge about the world.
2. CCSS.ELA - Also in grades 6-12, the standards for literacy in history/social studies, science, and technical subjects ensure that students can independently build knowledge in these disciplines through reading and writing.
3. CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.6.SP.A.3
Recognize that a measure of center for a numerical data set summarizes all of its values with a single number, while a measure of variation describes how its values vary with a single number.
4. CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.6.SP.B.5.D
Relating the choice of measures of center and variability to the shape of the data distribution and the context in which the data were gathered.

5. Virginia.WG.8 The student will distinguish between developed and developing countries and relate the level of economic development to the standard of living and quality of life.

6. WG.4 The student will locate and analyze physical, economic, and cultural

characteristics of world regions	

Learning objectives:	Assessment:
1. The student will learn geography of world countries that have been represented in the Iditarod. 2. Students will gather data, creating a visual graph to compare home countries of mushers	Method of assessment for learning: Student maps Graphing/research of mushers Student product

Procedural Activities
1. Show students photo of Iditarod Headquarters
2. Students research the flags. Which countries are represented?
https://photius.com/flags/alphabetic_list.html
3. Fill in graphic organizer or create Google Slide table
4. Which countries have been represented yet do not have a flag on the Iditarod Headquarters' sign? Are there any? Did those mushers finish the race?
5. Color in countries on the world map which have been represented by a musher in the Iditarod
6. Begin searching Iditarod.com under Race Center, and then Race Archives in the drop down menu. Begin tallying the countries from which mushers compete. If it's too overwhelming to go back to the beginning of the race, consider checking the latest decade, or one decade per group of students.
7. Create a bar graph from the data collected.
8. Are there countries not represented on the Iditarod Headquarters sign?
9. Would the rest of the flags fit on the sign, if the Iditarod Trail Committee were to add them?

Materials Students Need:
Technological devices
Photo of the Iditarod Headquarters sign
World maps
Colored pencils
Graph paper
Graphic organizer (see below)

Technology Utilized to Enhance Learning:
• Devices to research world flags and match to countries
• Create table in Google Slides for flags, country, and number of mushers representing that country

Modifications for special learners/ Enrichment Opportunities:
Enrichment activity: students can research economic and climatic conditions of the countries represented in the Iditarod after graphing mushers through the years. Infer from research why some countries are more likely to have mushers run the race compared to other countries.

Extension: what flags are not represented on the sign, even though mushers from those countries have competed in the Iditarod? What could be done to add those flags? Could you contact Iditarod Headquarters and find out what it takes to add a new flag to the sign?

Countries Represented in the Iditarod   Name:_____

Years of the race researched: _____

Flag (draw)	Country	Number of mushers representing that country