3.14

On March 19, 2009 at Central Elementary in Sidney, Nebraska, the accelerated math group created an example of the Iditarod trail map in circular form. To do so we each where assigned a checkpoint along the Iditarod trail, some did two check points with the same mileage to save time (which is a priority in Mrs. Roaches math class). Instead of using miles to create the example (which would be quite impossible) we used the scale 1 inch = 1 mile.

The first thing you need to know is the formula for finding diameter when you know the circumference, diameter equals circumference divided by 3.14. After you have found the diameter, how will you find the radius? The answer is diameter divided by two

equals radius, you need to know the radius to draw your circle.

The first step of the method we used to draw the circle is to measure a piece of string the same length as the radius. Then, we tied one end of the string to our pencil creating a large compass. Next, we had a partner hold the string down to the center point of the circle. Finally, to draw the circle hold the string tightly while you move your pencil to form a circle.

We then cut the circle out. We had a huge circle on our gym floor that was about 1,082 in. around. We then laid the smaller check point circles inside the large circle which were labeled with name of the check point the mileage of the checkpoint, the radius, and the diameter.

Now I will tell you a couple of the reasons we did this. This year the House of Representatives declared March 14th would be National Pi Day. The reason National Pi Day is on March 14th is because March is the third month of the year and the 14th is on the 14th day of the month. If you write it using digits it would look like this 3-14 which looks a lot like 3.14, see why. Happy National Pi Day have fun eating pie (the food) and remember that pi (3.14) is an infinite (go on forever) number.

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