

## Iditarod History Report

**Developed by:** Kim Verge

**Discipline / Subject:** Social Studies

**Topic:** History of the Iditarod

**Grade Level:** Grade 5

**Resources / References / Materials Teacher Needs:**

- 'Balto' the movie
- Internet access (Links on Suggested Links page)
- Assessment Sheet
- Instruction Sheet

**Lesson Summary:**

Students will do four activities; each activity requires research on the history of the Iditarod.

- Two paragraphs on the real Balto and the fictional Balto
- Notes on the events that led up to the first Iditarod
- A map of the Iditarod trail and the original trail traveled by Balto and the other teams and a short paragraph about the hardships Iditarod mushers face
- A timeline on the Iditarod winners throughout the years.

Students will hand in the activities to their teacher for assessment

**Standard's Addressed: (Washington State Standards)**

1. Students will understand and analyze historical time and chronology
2. Group national events in terms of past present and future and place in proper sequence on a timeline
3. Examine the influence of culture in USA history

**Learning objectives:**

1. Student will be able to recognize fact and fiction
2. Student will gain an understanding of the history of the Iditarod
3. Students will gain an understanding of the route and hardships of the Iditarod

**Assessment:**

Method of assessment for learning  
  
Assessment Sheet attached

**Procedural Activities**

1. Students will receive the assignments
2. Students will complete each activity

**Materials Students Need:**

**Technology Utilized to Enhance Learning:**

**Other Information**

**Modifications for special learners/ Enrichment Opportunities**

## Assessment Sheet

Information- The amount of information put in the activity (the amount of research shown)

Errors- The amount of errors in the activity

Neatness- How neat the activity is

Overall Look- How visually pleasing or pleasing to read the activity is (How well put together it is)

Instructions- How well the instructions were followed

For every Excellent give 25%

For every Good give 20%

For every Satisfying 15%

For every Poor give 10%

Put a check in the correct box for each aspect of the activity

<b>Balto Paragraphs</b>				
	Excellent	Good	Satisfying	Poor
Information				
Errors				
Neatness				
Overall look				
Instructions				

<b>Notes of Iditarod History</b>				
	Excellent	Good	Satisfying	Poor
Information				
Errors				
Neatness				
Overall look				
Instructions				

<b>Map and Paragraph of Trail</b>				
	Excellent	Good	Satisfying	Poor
Information				
Errors				
Neatness				
Overall look				
Instructions				

<b>Timeline</b>				
	Excellent	Good	Satisfying	Poor
Information				
Errors				
Neatness				
Overall look				
Instructions				

## Suggested Links



[www.Iditarod.com](http://www.Iditarod.com)  
(For the Map activity)

[www.Iditarod.com/learn/history.http](http://www.Iditarod.com/learn/history.http)  
(For the Iditarod history)

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/sleddogs/balto.html>  
(For the Balto activity)

[http://www.cabelasiditarod.com/former\\_champions.html](http://www.cabelasiditarod.com/former_champions.html)  
(For the Timeline)

[http://www.cabelasiditarod.com/cabelas\\_history.html](http://www.cabelasiditarod.com/cabelas_history.html)  
(For the Iditarod history)

## Instruction Sheet

You (student) will complete four assignments

The first assignment is the Balto paragraphs;

- You will watch the movie 'Balto' and research the real Balto
- You will write two paragraphs, one outlining the life of the real Balto and the other outlining the fictional Balto
- Some things to include in the paragraphs are the looks and personality of the real and fake Balto
- Paragraphs must be proof-read

The second assignment is notes on the history of the Iditarod;

- You will research the history before the Iditarod up to the first race including the period of Balto.
- You will document in note form the main facts you find in your research (notes **must** be in chronological order)
- Notes must be proof-read for spelling mistakes but do not need to be in full sentences (as long as it makes sense)

The third assignment is the trail map and paragraph;

- You will map out the Iditarod trail including the main communities on the way (also show the route taken by Balto and the other teams)
- You will write a short paragraph about the hardships musher's face during the Iditarod
- The map should have a legend and have proper map symbols
- Paragraph should be proof-read
- The paragraph should be general (musher's face starvation etc.) but should have a few specific examples of the dangers

The last assignment is a timeline of all the Iditarod winners;

- You must research all the Iditarod winners and their runtimes
- The timeline should include each Iditarod winner and their runtimes
- The timeline should be visually pleasing and be proof-read (pictures can be used)
- Other information can be added (countries of winners, interesting things that happened etc.)