

## EIGHT Traits of IDITAROD

**Developed by:** Terrie Hanke 2006 TOTT™

**Discipline:** All subject areas

**Topic:** Character Education

**Grade Level:** 4<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup>

**Resources / References / Materials Teacher Needs:** None

**Lesson Summary:** Use IDITAROD as an acronym for desirable personal traits.

**Standard's Addressed: (Local, State, or National):** Blending of intellectual and moral ideals to instill mental, moral and ethical traits contributing to the greater good of society.

**Learning objectives:** Develop a caring and respectful classroom where all students can work to achieve their potential.

**Assessment:** Observation of student behavior and resourcefulness in the classroom.

**Procedural Activities:** Students or athletes will create a list of desirable personal traits beginning with the letters of IDITAROD. Using a democratic process or consensus one trait from the list will be chosen for each letter. Students can cite examples of how mushers demonstrate each trait while on the trail as well as how their classmates demonstrate each trait while in the classroom, on the playground, in the lunchroom, on the playing field, in the library or in the gymnasium. When a breakdown of citizenship occurs, the offenders can return to their examples, rethink their deeds and reflect upon a preferable course of action.

**Materials Students Need:** Personal Journal

**Technology Utilized to Enhance Learning:** None

**Other Information:** Students might enjoy reading stories about the Iditarod to find examples of the traits chosen for their classroom acronym.

**Modifications for special learners/ Enrichment Opportunities:** Reward systems can be established for students caught in the act of exemplifying a trait or students can focus on a specific trait that is problematic by setting goals to assist in moving toward desirable actions on a more consistent basis.

**Notes:** As the school year progresses, new traits might be added to the list especially if there were several good suggestions for each letter.

