hosted by: San Augustine Public Library

## Beginning March 3 - ???

**This challenging race of over 1,100 miles can take from 9-14 days to complete. How long will it take your musher, and how many books (or chapters) will you complete??**

Dear Guardians,
The Iditarod is a very tough and exciting Alaskan sled dog race run from Anchorage to Nome, and all those who enter do it for the challenge. Only a few teams are good enough to do it for the money and fame it will bring to them. We are going to follow the 52nd Annual Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race this year! This challenging race of over 1,100 miles can take from 9 to 14 days to complete.

We are accepting a similar challenge in reading. We call it the IditaREAD Challenge. Readers will choose veteran and rookie mushers and attempt to read to match their mushers' arrival at each of the 25 race checkpoints. Each reader's goal will be to read a chapter, a story, or a short book for each race checkpoint reached by their musher. Readers will keep track of their reading on an Iditaread Challenge Reading Record.

The ceremonial start of the race is on Saturday, March 2nd 2024 in Anchorage. The official race restart is in Willow on Sunday, March 3rd. Our reading will also begin officially on Sunday, March 3rd, and will continue until the last musher finishes in Nome.

Here are some general guidelines:
1. Everyone will be participating – it's part of our reading.
2. Help your reader choose material that is a slight challenge but enjoyable.
3. All readers will keep a record of their reading on their Iditaread Challenge Reading Record.
4. Find out more online about the Iditarod, the dogs, and your musher's progress at:
- http://iditarod.com/race/
- musher listings: http://iditarod.com/race/musher-listing/
- musher profile: http://iditarod.com/race/mushers/

5. Certificates of participation and Iditaread dog tags will be awarded to all finishers at the conclusion of the race. Readers must turn in a completed Iditaread Challenge Reading Record to qualify for a dog tag.

Thank you and good luck in our Iditaread!

Sincerely,
Tori Brazeal
San Augustine Public Library SAPL

# The Most Common Question asked about the Trail:

*Why does the trail go one way in even years (northern) and the other way in odd years (southern)?*

Both sections of trail are a part of the Iditarod National Historical Trail which was used in early years for all winter travel. Dog sleds delivered the mail, the preacher, the groceries and hauled out gold and furs all the way to Anchorage or Fairbanks.

During the early years of the Iditarod Race, the mushers only traveled the northern trail. After several years, the Iditarod Board of Directors realized that the smaller villages were being heavily impacted by the race coming through their village year after year. It was decided to use both sections of the trail.

This decision had a three-fold effect. The northern villages of Ruby, Galena and Nulato only had to deal with the large group of mushers, press and volunteers every other year. The second effect was that the race was able to pass through the actual ghost town of Iditarod. Lastly, the villages of Shageluk, Anvik and Grayling were able to participate in the race.

# The Iditarod Trail

## Northern (Even Year) Route
## Southern (Odd Year) Route

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# Iditaread Challenge

# RACE ENTRY APPLICATION

**Please complete this form and get the necessary signatures to enter the Iditaread.**

1. Musher (Reader) Name _____
2. Birth date _____ 3. Age ___
4. What is your goal for the Iditaread?
   ___Read a story or short book per checkpoint
   ___Read a chapter per checkpoint

Please write a few sentences about any special things you want to learn about Alaska, the dogs or the Iditarod this year?

_____

_____

_____

_____

Tori Brazeal
_____
Race Official (Children's Librarian)

_____
Assistant Official (Guardian)

Iditaread Challenge

Musher (Reader) Name: _____

Glue/import picture of your mushing partner here.

# Our Mushing Partner

## Iditaread

Veteran ☐

or

Rookie ☐

**Readers can look at photos of the mushers and choose the musher they want to track during their iditarod / iditaread adventure.**

**Musher listings:** http://iditarod.com/race/musher-listing/

**Musher profile:** http://iditarod.com/race/mushers/

Name:_____ Home:_____

Age:_____ Where born:_____

When did he or she begin mushing?_____

How many times has this musher participated in the Iditarod?_____

Hobbies:_____

Other information about your musher:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

My Name:_____

Librarian Name:

# Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race

## Iditarod Bookmark Tally Sheet

My Iditaread Reading Goal is: ____ Stories/Chapters/Short Books

| Checkpoint # | List each story, chapter, or short book you read | Author |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | | |
| 2 | | |
| 3 | | |
| 4 | | |
| 5 | | |
| 6 | | |
| 7 | | |
| 8 | | |
| 9 | | |
| 10 | | |
| 11 | | |
| 12 | | |
| 13 | | |
| 14 | | |
| 15 | | |
| 16 | | |
| 17 | | |
| 18 | | |
| 19 | | |
| 20 | | |
| 21 | | |
| 22 | | |
| 23 | | |
| 24 | | |
| 25 | | |

EX: 1. The Call of the Wild: Chapter 1 - Buck is Stolen — Jack London

Reader Name:_____

Musher Name:_____

# Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race

## Southern Route Musher Tracking Checksheet

*This page is optional for the iditarod enthusiasts.*

| Checkpoint Name | Miles Run | From Anch. | Date | Time In | # of Dogs | Date | Time Out | # of Dogs | # of Dropped Dogs | Layover |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Checkpoint Name | | | | | | | | | | |
| Anchorage | | | | | | | | | | |
| Campbell Airstrip | 11 | 11 | | | | | | | | |
| Willow | 42 | 53 | | | | | | | | |
| Yentna | 30 | 83 | | | | | | | | |
| Skwentna | 40 | 123 | | | | | | | | |
| Finger Lake | 30 | 153 | | | | | | | | |
| Rainy Pass | 35 | 188 | | | | | | | | |
| Rohn | 75 | 263 | | | | | | | | |
| Nikolai | 48 | 311 | | | | | | | | |
| McGrath | 18 | 329 | | | | | | | | |
| Takotna | 23 | 352 | | | | | | | | |
| Ophir | 73 | 425 | | | | | | | | |
| Cripple | 70 | 495 | | | | | | | | |
| Ruby | 50 | 545 | | | | | | | | |
| Galena | 37 | 582 | | | | | | | | |
| Nulato | 47 | 629 | | | | | | | | |
| Kaltag | 85 | 714 | | | | | | | | |
| Unalakleet | 40 | 754 | | | | | | | | |
| Shaktoolik | 50 | 804 | | | | | | | | |
| Koyuk | 48 | 852 | | | | | | | | |
| Elim | 28 | 880 | | | | | | | | |
| Golovin (unofficial)** | 18 | 898 | | | | | | | | |
| White Mountain | 55 | 953 | | | | | | | | |
| Safety | 22 | 975 | | | | | | | | |