

DOG SLED RACE



VIRTUAL Field trip

❄️❄️❄️ Dog Sled Racing ❄️❄️❄️

Dog sled racing is a popular sport and pastime around the world. Teams of dog sleds and their mushers race across extreme conditions to see who can cross the finish line first. In many races, the dog sled teams travel many miles for days before crossing the finish line.

In the United States, many dog sled races are held in the state of Alaska. Because of the wintry conditions needed for a dog sled race, most states cannot host dog sled races as often as Alaska. However, other northern states in the United States, such as Wisconsin, Maine, Montana, Minnesota, and Michigan, host dog sled races during their winters.



Dog sled racing also takes place around the world. Other countries known for dog sled racing include Canada, Russia, Norway, and Sweden.

These countries are all located in the northern hemisphere where there are weather conditions ideal for dog sledding.

Collect this dog and paste it on your *team* to show you understand what dog sled racing is.

INTEGRATES READING

Short reading passages to
reinforce content and
vocabulary.

GEOGRAPHY

Learn about Alaska, where
dog sledding is common.

Alaska



Alaska is the northernmost state in the United States. Alaska is bordered by the country of Canada.

Because Alaska is located so far north in the northern hemisphere, it has a very cold climate for most of the year. The colder temperatures and frequent snowfall make many locations in Alaska ideal for dog sledding.

One of the most famous dog sled races in Alaska is the Iditarod. It spans over 1,000 miles. It's a grueling experience for participants and their dogs. The race starts in Anchorage and ends in Nome. Along the way, participants musher their dogs through rough terrain, cold temperatures, fierce winds and more.

SCIENCE: FORCE & MOTION

Force and motion are key concepts that are reinforced throughout this activity.

Sled Dog Science

A **force** is an interaction that depends on the relationship between objects. Pushing and pulling are two common types of forces.

Sled dogs are connected to the sled and to each other by strong harnesses, which are like leashes worn around the dog's entire body. The relationship between the sled and the connected sled dogs allows the sled to be put into motion by the pulling of the dogs as they run. The motion of the sled is controlled by the force of the sled dogs pulling the sled.

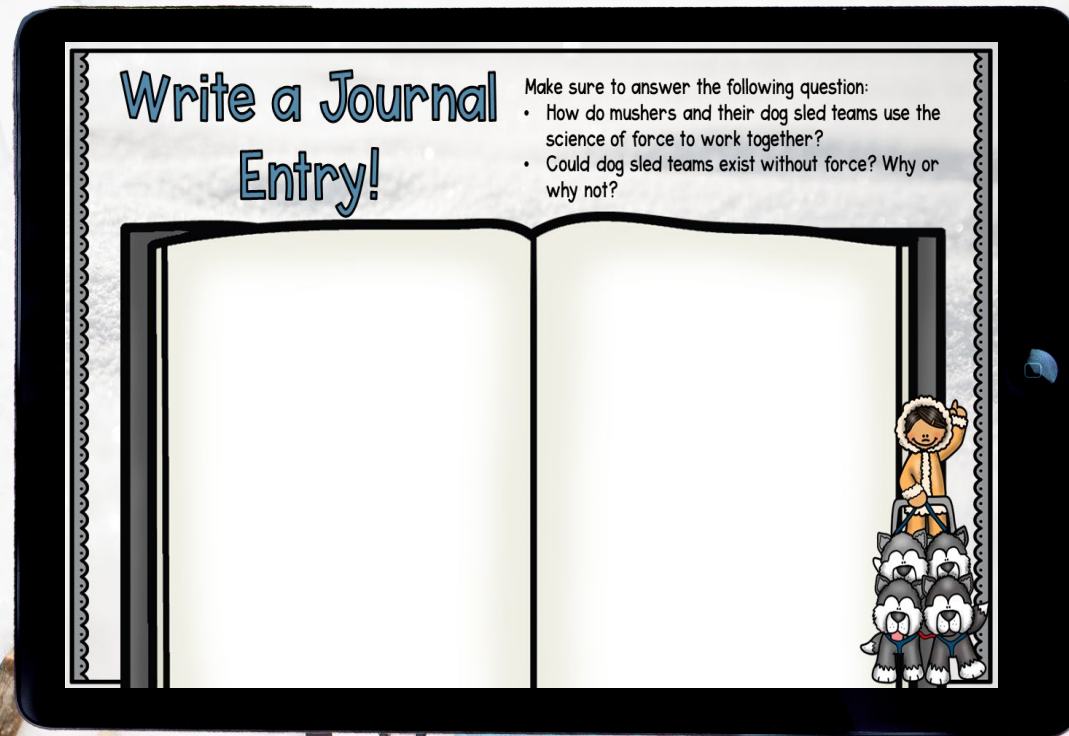
When an object is **at rest**, it means the object is not moving. However, there are still forces acting upon the object. When sled dogs stop moving, the sled will also stop moving and will be at rest.



Watch the video
to learn more
about forces
and motion!

WRITING

Students think critically and reflect on learning.



INTEGRATES KEY SKILLS

- Reading comprehension
 - Social Studies
 - Science
- Text Features
- Critical Thinking

Parts of a Dog Sled

There are many working parts to a dog sled.

Handle Bars

The musher holds on to the handle bars for safety.

Foot Boards

This is where the musher stands while riding the sled.

Brake

The brake makes the sled come to a stop.



Cargo Bed

This is where the musher stores supplies. Some sleds have enough room for passengers to sit here.

Brush Bow

The front bumper of the sled.

Runners

Runners are the long strips on the very bottom of the sled. They help the sled move across the snow.

Suggested Uses

- Assign in Google Classroom or SeeSaw
- Whole Class Activity
- Small groups or center
- Early Finisher
- Incentive or Fun Friday

Google Slides and SeeSaw



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