

Lesson Plan Title: **Husky Rice Puppies**

Developed by:

Kim Slade

Discipline / Subject:

Interdisciplinary

Topic:

Create stuffed husky puppies

Grade Level:

Grades 3 – 7

Resources / References / Materials Teacher Needs:

- Internet websites (see below)
- *Dogs of the Iditarod* by Jeff Shultz
- *Born to Pull* by Bob Cary and Gail de Marcken
- *Dogteam* by Gary Paulsen
- Copies of Birth certificate, Cinquain poetry, Venn Diagram, & Journal Pages
- Student materials (see below)

Lesson Summary:

Students will make a stuffed husky puppy in order to simulate the responsibility of owning a puppy. They will take care of their puppy over two weeks, documenting the care they must provide. Students create characteristics that their puppy may exhibit as if it were real – this information is kept journal style

Standard's Addressed: (Local, State, or National)

1. The student measures quantities in the real world and uses the measures to solve problems.
2. The student selects and uses appropriate units and instruments for measurement to achieve the degree of precision and accuracy required in real-world situations.
3. The student describes patterns of structure and function in living things.
4. The student knows that a model of something is different from the real thing, but can be used to learn something about the real thing.
5. The student writes to communicate ideas and information effectively.

<p>Learning objectives: Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimate in real-world situation to determine reasonableness • Measure quantities in real-world problems • Select and use instruments to measure • Find the relationship between models and real-world representations 	<p>Assessment: Students will complete all activity sheets and write observations about their experiences using a journal.</p>
<p>Procedural Activities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students estimate the weight and age of Alaskan husky puppies when their eyes open – discuss estimates – <i>puppies are about 10 days old and weigh an average of 3/4 pounds or 12 ounces</i> 2. Pass out materials to make puppies 3. Students fill socks with estimated weight of rice using a plastic cup, funnel, or scoop – they are to guess approximate amount 4. Tie off end of sock by knotting open end at sock band 5. Put rubber band around toe end of sock to make head 6. Pinch underside of body to make four legs 7. Cut felt for ears and glue to head 8. Sew running stitch across middle portion of head to separate forehead and nose 9. Glue googly eyes to head 10. Decorate body of puppy with spots, stripes, or patches using fabric paints, fabric markers, or felt 11. Students use books referenced, and use the internet, to research information on Alaskan huskies and sled dogs – this will give them background information in order to journal their puppy’s characteristics 12. Students complete Birth Certificate (see “Other Information” below) 13. Students create a Cinquain poem – see the following website for information on cinquians http://hrsbstaff.ednet.ns.ca/davidc/6c_files/Poem%20pics/cinquaindescrip.htm 14. Students complete the Venn diagram by comparing their puppy with another student’s 15. Journal Pages – students can make a journal by stapling several journal pages together (see “Other Information” below) 	

Materials Students Need:

Each student will need:

- Men's white crew sock
- 2-Googly eyes
- 2-felt pieces to make ears
- 4-small plastic hair rubber bands for legs
- 1-medium plastic hair rubber band to make head
- Rice-(about 12 oz, but unmeasured)
- Sewing Needle
- Quilting thread-(cut piece about 10 inches long)
- Copies of Birth Certificate, Cinquain poetry, Venn diagram, & Journal pages

Provide for students to share:

- Plastic cup, funnel, or scoop
- Fabric paints, fabric markers, or felt to make markings
- Optional: RIT due to color socks

Technology Utilized to Enhance Learning:

Internet access to the following websites:

http://hrsbstaff.ednet.ns.ca/davidc/6c_files/Poem%20pics/cinquaindescrip.htm
www.alaskan-husky-dogs.com
www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/sleddogs/index.html
www.iditarod.com

Other Information

- Once puppies are completed, students weigh them to see actual weight and how close their estimates were
- When completing Birth Certificate, students come up with their own kennel name and the birth date is calculated by counting back 10 days from the date of their puppy's completion
- Students nurture their puppy for one to two weeks (include at least one weekend) and journal daily events as if their puppy were real – this allows students to get a feel for taking care of a dog and it helps the student see that mushers need to spend time with their dogs in order to know their personalities

Modifications for special learners/ Enrichment Opportunities

This project can be extended over time to include more information about the puppy's personalities – this will allow the student to see a pattern over time

Notes:

When estimating the amount of rice, it is okay if students are off on their weights – it needs to be noted that litters of puppies can vary in weights