

The Iditarod Challenge 2009-10

Is Your Husky Ready ?



The JUST RIGHT BOOK Makes Reading Fun

What is the Iditarod Challenge?

The Iditarod Challenge is a motivational reading program at Hillside Elementary. Students read books that are JUST RIGHT—at just the right reading level and just the right topics for them and just the right challenge! After reading the book, students demonstrate comprehension through Accelerated Reader (AR) computer quizzes or book reports. Students gain points based on comprehension accuracy. These points qualify students for the Iditarod reading awards. Hillside uses a variety of instructional projects and programs to encourage reading.

Who can participate in the Iditarod Challenge?

All students may participate. Kindergarteners and first graders have a special PUP CLUB reader club. Check for details with your student's teacher.

When does the program begin and end?

The Iditarod Challenge officially begins September 14 and ends April 23.

How does my student know which books are JUST RIGHT BOOKS to choose?

Students are taking a reading placement test called Star Reader in that provides a "zone of proximal development". The zone suggests books that are JUST RIGHT for the students' independent reading level. All books in the media center are color-coded to match the various reading zones. Throughout the year, the students will re-take the Star test to reevaluate placement.

What if there is not a computer quiz for a book the student read?

Students can write a Reading Response (book report) in place of an AR computer quiz. Classroom projects can also be included. Turn them in to the Media Center with your name, grade, and LA teacher on the report. Students get points for good work!

So how do you climb? Participate? Win stuff?

Hey, students...

- Tell your teacher you want to participate in the Iditarod Challenge this year!
- Select JUST RIGHT BOOKS from the Hillside Media Center, the library, book stores, friends, your home... And enjoy the books, reading carefully.
- Your teacher can help you find JUST RIGHT BOOKS at the media center!
- Ask your teacher which Point Club (see back) you are in.
- Check out the awesome incentives on the back you can earn for reading, learning and having fun!
- Take AR Computer quizzes when your teacher has allotted computer time, or write a Reading Respons at home and bring it to the media center (include your name/grade/LA teacher). AR Quizzes and reports earn you points.
- Watch your Husky magnet CLIMB the Iditarod Mountain by the Cafeteria as you earn points!
- You will receive ribbons for mastery of each Point Club level The higher checkpoint levels get extra fun incentives.



How high can YOU climb?



When are Point Club awards given out?

Ribbons and other prizes will be distributed monthly. At the end of the school year, students achieving the highest levels of the Iditarod will be recognized at a grade-level assembly.

What if my child needs help with the Accelerated Reader software or has other questions?

Contact Mrs. Simon in the Media Center for questions. Feel free to contact the PTA Program Manager Amy Hinkel at awhinkel@yahoo.com or Allison Merrill at allison.merrill@yahoo.com

Iditarod Point Clubs

*Designated by the student's Language Arts teacher

	Yellow Club*	Blue Club*	Silver Club*	Awards
Eagle River	10	15	25	Red Ribbon + get your Husky Magnet on the Mural Mountain!
Rainy Pass	20	25	50	Blue Ribbon
Anvik	30	50	100	Yellow Ribbon
Shaktoolik	40	75	150	Silver Ribbon + lunch with Hillside Mascot
White Mountain	50	100	200	Gold Ribbon + WDOG airtime!
Nome	60	125	250	Wall of Fame + Book Fair Voucher

Have fun, Huskies!



This program is funded and managed by Hillside PTA volunteers with guidance and oversight from Hillside faculty and staff.