



Broward County Public Schools Videoconference

Communities And Reading TOUR

Lesson: Alaska
Instructor: Evelyn Nelson, BECON Distance Learning Teacher

Grade Level: Grade Three

Sunshine State Standards: LA.A.2.2, LA.B.2.2, and SS.B.2.1

Benchmarks: LA.A.2.2.1, LA.B.2.2.1, SS.B.2.1.1, and SS.B.2.1.5

Infusion Points: Language Arts and Social Studies

Objective(s):

1. Students will write notes, comments, and observations that reflect comprehension of content presented during the class.
2. Students will determine the main idea from a text.
3. Students will be able to identify physical and human characteristics of Alaska.
4. Students will identify means of transportation in Alaska.



Fuel for Thought

growing season – The months in which crops can grow.

hibernation – A sleeplike state in which some animals pass the winter.

tundra – The relatively flat, treeless plain found in arctic regions.

Literature Emphasis

Book Title: A Child's Alaska

Author: Claire Rudolf Murphy **Photographer:** Charles Mason

Publisher: Alaska Northwest Books, Portland, OR (2003)

Story Summary: This book presents fascinating aspects of life on the Last Frontier commemorated in words and pictures.

Activities

- The videoconference instructor will review the *Fuel for Thought* vocabulary words
 - Students will copy down the words without the definitions.
 - Part of the follow-up to this lesson will be defining the vocabulary words.
- Instructor will show the travel route between Wyoming and Alaska.
- Instructor will read *A Child's Alaska* and ask students the following questions.
 1. Which state is the biggest?
 - a. Texas
 - b. **Alaska**
 - c. California
 - d. Montana
 2. If your friend lived in the Alaskan “bush” how would you get there?
 - a. Snowmachine
 - b. Boat
 - c. Airplane
 - d. **All of the above**
 3. What makes up a glacier?
 - a. Rock
 - b. Dirt
 - c. **Ice**
 - d. Water
 4. What are the two names for the tallest mountain in North America?
 - a. Mount Mitchell or Talkeetna
 - b. **Mount McKinley or Denali**

True or False

5. Eskimos really do live in Alaska. **True**
6. Alaska once belonged to Russia. **True**
7. In every part of Alaska the sun doesn't rise above the horizon in December and January. **False**
8. When the temperature reaches fifty below zero what happens?
 - a. It's hard to breathe.
 - b. Faces can become frostbitten.
 - c. Children have to stay indoors.
 - d. **All of the Above**
9. Name a popular Eskimo game. **Blanket toss**
10. What is a sure sign of spring?
 - a. The wind blows hard.
 - b. **The ice in the river breaks up.**
 - c. The dogs begin to howl.
11. How many Alaskan fish, birds, and animals can you name? **King salmon, Dall sheep, mountain goats, sandhill cranes, geese**
12. What do Alaskan children do in the summer?
 - a. **Swim, camp, fish, hike, and play baseball**
 - b. Snowmobile, ski, ice skate, and sled in the snow
13. Why do giant vegetables grow in Alaska?

- a. They have really good fertilizer.
 - b. The long hours of daylight during the growing season.
 - c. The seeds are very big.
14. Can you name five different types of fish and seafood found in Alaska waters? *Salmon, halibut, shrimp, herring, crab*
15. Match the animal to their winter activity:

Caribou & Sled Dogs	Brown fur turn white
Arctic Foxes & Snowshoe Hares	Migrate south
Arctic Tern	Hibernation
Grizzly Bears & Ground Squirrels	Grow thicker coats

- Students will define the vocabulary words and expand their journal entries.

Materials Needed

“Travel Journal” and a pencil for each student

Lesson Extension

U.S. Department of the Interior: Alaska Kids Corner

<http://www.mms.gov/alaska/kids/index.htm>