

BOOK OF THE MONTH:

Kamik's First Sled

by Matilda Sulurayok and Qin Leng

Ages: 7-10 years old

1. Introducing the Book:



Exploring the Cover

**When presenting the book, be sure to highlight its title and to share the names of the author and illustrator!*

The boy on the cover of the book is waving at you. Can you wave back at him? What are the boy and the dog doing? How can you describe the boy's surroundings? There is snow covering the ground and the sky is blue. There is a village with colorful houses.

Building Background

The main character of this story, Jake, lives in a village in Nunavut. The Inuit people of Canada have relied on sled dogs like Kamik for centuries. The dogs helped them travel and transport goods. They're an essential part of Inuit culture and way of life. These dogs are very strong and loyal. They love the cold as they have thick fur that keeps them warm.

2. Reading the Book: Interactive Reading

While reading the book, ask the children the following questions:

- Do you remember which words Jake used to guide the sled dog? ("Harah" to go fast, "hai" to turn left, "avai" to turn right, and "whoa" to stop.)
- What were some of the things Kamik was good at on the first try? What are some of the things he still has to learn?
- How were Jake and Kamik able to find their way back home in a snowstorm?
- What did Jake think of Kamik's first try with a sled?

3. After Reading the Book: Canada Map Puzzle



- Learning about geography - features and locations in the environment ;
- Learning to identify, describe, copy and complete patterns;
- Learning new vocabulary of words about Canada.



Materials:

- Pre-made puzzle pieces

Print the [Canada map puzzle print-outs](#) and cut out the puzzle pieces before the start of the activity.

After reading the book and learning about Inuit culture and Nunavut, invite the children to put together all of the separate puzzle pieces to complete the map of Canada.

Shoe Shoe



- Practicing strength, flexibility, balance and timing in using their large muscles;
- Learning to engage in cooperative play and building relationships.

Materials:

- Soft ball/small stuffed toy/bean bag

Shoe Shoe is a traditional Inuit game. Players sit down in a circle. One person stands in the middle while a soft ball or a stuffed toy is passed around in the circle, hidden underneath players' bent knees. The person in the center tries to keep track of where the object is and waits for someone to throw the object at them. If the player in the center catches the object, they are allowed to sit in the circle and are replaced by the person who threw the object. If the object hit the player in the centre, they remain in the center until they catch the object.

References and Resources

[Indigenous Games](#)

[Canada Map Puzzle - CBC](#)

Legend



Cognitive



Socio-emotional



Language



Physical