

## Mini Musher Bibs

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**Developed by:**

Meghan Morrow (Secret Forest Playschool)

**Discipline / Subject:**

Art, emergent reading and writing and dramatic play

**Topic:**

Musher Bibs

**Grade Level:**

Pre-K, but could be modified for almost any age

**Resources / References / Materials Teacher Needs:**

A baby's bib

A race bib or team jersey

A boot

A big sheet of paper or board

**Materials Need for Bibs:**

Blackout fabric

Elastic or ribbon

Secure with sewing machine/needle and thread or hot glue gun

Scissors or Fiskars wheel

Yardstick

8.5" diameter round lid (I used a pink 7c Pyrex lid)

Cutting board or protective mat

**Optional:**

Iron

Iron on numbers

Stencils

Stickers or patches

Sharpie maker

**Lesson Summary:**

What is a bib? (babies wear bibs, but we are talking about a different kind of bib) Musers wear race bibs to show what number they are. The number represents the order in which the musers will start the race and allows people to track and identify them during their run- much like we know other athletes by their jersey numbers. What athlete's jersey number do you know? (basketball and football players) When are others times that numbers are important for helping us identify things? (addresses, phone numbers, etc)

In the Iditarod musers don't get to pick their bib/starting number, their number is drawn from a Mukluk/boot. Have your students write their name on a piece of paper and put it in a boot. Then have the students draw their starting number (remembering to leave #1 for the honorary musher) from the boot. This is a good opportunity to look at letter and name recognition, number formation and sequencing. Write down the student's bib numbers on a large piece of paper or board as you go for everyone to see! (For older students the process of elimination as numbers are drawn might be another thing to focus on)

After the bib numbers have been assigned it is time for your students to design their Mini Musher bib! This gives your students a chance to be creative!

Once their bibs have been completed it is time to play! Set up a course and have them get in starting order (sequencing from smallest to largest) and race or let them pretend to be musers out on trail as they care for their "dog team" (there are often many peers that are eager to play the role of the sled dog).

**Standard's Addressed: MN Early Childhood Indicators of Progress**

- Imagination and invention
- Curiosity
- Emergent writing
- Creating
- Math and logical thinking, number concepts and math reasoning
- Social systems
- Fine motor development

<p><b>Learning Objectives:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To understand why mushers have race bibs and what purpose they serve.</li> <li>2. To practice number and letter recognition and sequencing</li> <li>3. To try out a role in play- using their imagination</li> </ol>	<p><b>Method of assessment for learning</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conversation and group discussion</li> <li>2. Note if students able to identify numbers, letters/names? Can they count in order from 1-*12? *or number of students present</li> <li>3. Observation</li> </ol>
<p><b>Procedural Activities</b></p> <p><u>Bib preparation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cut blackout fabric into 12”x 27” rectangles (1 yard, 36”x 54”, yields 6 bibs)</li> <li>• Fold bib in half and place half the 8.5” diameter circle over the folded end and cut around it (making a hold for the head)</li> <li>• Add elastic or ribbon to the sides of the bibs so that they can be secured/tied</li> </ul> <p>*Optional- add your schools name on the front of the bib and the child’s first or last name on the back of the bib using a Sharpie marker. If you are working with older children they can do this themselves during the decorating stage!</p> <p><u>Bib design:</u></p> <p>Students can iron on or write their number on their bib (make sure to do this before they decorate- it is hard to add afterwards). If you have patches or stickers to iron on, this is a good time to add them.</p> <p>Now students can decorate their bibs to their hearts desire. Feel free to provide any and all materials you wish.</p>	
<p><b>Materials Students Need:</b></p> <p>Paper and pencil to write name on for the bib draw Crayons, markers, paint, etc. to decorate their bibs</p>	
<p><b>Technology Utilized to Enhance Learning:</b></p> <p><a href="https://iditarod.com/zuma/whats-a-bib/">https://iditarod.com/zuma/whats-a-bib/</a></p>	

**Other Information:**

Don't rush this activity. It might take multiple days to complete. Break it into manageable parts (I especially encourage teachers to prep the bibs little by little and to ask for parent volunteers to help). Once your students have completed their bibs see what ideas guide their play.

I have tried various fabric types and have found that I like this the best as it doesn't fray as easily and it's not stiff: <https://www.walmart.com/ip/54-Roc-lon-100-Blackout-fabric-white-white/164714653>

My students wear their Mini Musher bibs to the start of local dog sled races, on our mushing field trip and for Halloween! Years after they have left my program I have seen their bibs proudly displayed in their bedrooms. This is a BIG project, but it leaves a BIG impact on their understanding, excitement and interest in dog sledding.

**Modifications for Special Learners/ Enrichment Opportunities:**

There is no right or wrong way to decorate a bib so this should be an lesson that all children can feel successful with! Some materials may be easier or harder for certain students to work with and manipulate- remember to feel free to use whatever materials you see fit. If you have students that struggle with being responsible around tools/equipment be sure to provide them with extra supervision if you choose to have them use an iron on their race number or forego it and have them use a stencil or write/draw it on.

Cutting the bibs out and adding the side elastic/ribbon give extended opportunities for older students to be involved in the process of making their bibs and lessens the teacher preparation.

I have created a document in Google Slides that has pictures from this project and the finished product. Please take some time to check it out! Thank you :)

The file may be accessed here:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/16xv4TmABmabMX2QzWRaQV42XPxdLAfd?usp=sharing>