

## Lesson Plans for Ten on the Sled

Written and Illustrated by Kim Norman

Ten on anything is never a good idea, unless it's used to teach children number and literacy concepts! Ten on the Sled by Kim Norman is a fun winter tale that takes children on a countdown adventure where the animals fall from the sled in a variety of active ways - the seal spills, the walrus whirls and the hare hops to name a few! It won't be hard to convince your students to become the animals on the sled for an active learning experience. The book can be sung to the tune of "Ten on the Bed" for added enjoyment.

### Dramatic Play

#### Math

As the children tumble off the sled, emphasize that you are starting with 10 and losing (or subtracting) 1 each time making the number smaller. Use visuals of these numbers by making cards or writing them on a white board so number recognition is practiced.

## Action Words

Children love thinking of fun ways to move. Brainstorm with the group different ways we can move our bodies. When it's their animals turn to leave the sled, encourage them to choose an action of their very own.

## Alliteration

By definition an alliteration is “the occurrence of the same letter or sound at the beginning of closely connected words.” This is demonstrated in the book as the seal spills or the bear bails. A child’s favorite word is their name! Help them come up with an alliteration for their name that will help them exit the sled on their turn.

## Music

Gather ten different sounding instruments. Have the students assign a different instrument sound to each animal. Help them chart their decisions so you all remember. Now, as the animal falls from the sled, it makes its special sound.

## STEAM

### Sled and Slope

For this activity, students go through the Engineering Design Process for this STEM challenge: How can you build a sled that fits all 10 animals on top? Students will first plan their sled design and decide how they want their creation to look like. Once their plan is ready, students can start to build. The animals can be represented by unifix cubes, counting bears, lego, or anything!

You can keep the supplies at a minimum offering only straws, craft sticks and pipe cleaners or open it up to all of the materials you have on hand, with cardboard, egg cartons, foil, rubber bands, tape, etc.

Depending on the abilities of your learners or your learning objectives, you could add the element of travel to the challenge by building a ramp for the sleds to travel on. Will the animals stay on as they slide down a hill? Sleds can be tested and adapted in true engineer style. Check out either of the videos linked below for more information.

[Winter STEM Challenge - Sled & Slope - STEM Challenges](#)

# Literacy

## Beginning Sounds

Below are a set of cards depicting the animals from the story. These cards may be used in a variety of ways. Don't let my suggestions limit your options!

1. The picture cards alone could be used with magnetic or foam letters to find the beginning or ending sound (depending on abilities) for each animal. With younger children, show them the letter an animal starts with and let them find a match.
2. A memory style game could be played with all of the cards matching a picture to a word.
3. The name cards could be used in a writing center or to create the words with play dough.
4. The animal cards could be taped to unifix cubes or small blocks and added to the STEAM or Math activities mentioned.
5. Mount the animal cards on index cards, laminate and make necklaces for the children to wear as they act out the story.
6. The animal cards can be used for story retelling or story sequencing.

What other uses can you think of?!

## Sensory Box

### Instant Snow

Try this simple "snow" recipe for hours of snowy fun. Pour 1 cup of baking soda into a bowl and add water one tablespoon at a time. Stir the two ingredients together, adding water as you go until it's light and powdery. Refresh with more water as needed to extend play. Add animals to the snow and a sled or small box for story retelling.



# Math

## Number Line

Add a collection of animals like the ones in the story plus a container to act as a sled to your math center along with a number-line labeled 0-10. A child can practice number recognition, counting, and one-to-one correspondence. For an added challenge ask questions like the ones below for the child to consider:

- Find a specific number.
- Starting at 0, slide 4 spaces, then slide onwards 2 more spaces. How far are you away from 0 now?
- Slide 5 spaces. What is the number after the next space? What are the next three numbers?
- Start at 10. Slide backwards 3 spaces, then another 3 spaces. Where are you now?
- Find number 6 and number 4, which number is closest (or furthest) from zero?

# Process Art

## Snowy Puff Paint

Mix equal parts shaving foam with white glue, maybe slightly more shaving foam. No need to be exact! Add glitter for extra sparkle. Children will enjoy the texture of this unique mixture alone or add animal cutout for them to add to their winter scene.



# Craft

## Student on a Sled

Document the alliteration the children come up with for their own names with a fun class book. Have the children decorate a sweater and snow pants to add to a sled cutout along with a photograph of their face. Have them help you write their name and action word if they are able. Bind all the pictures into a book they can read throughout the winter.



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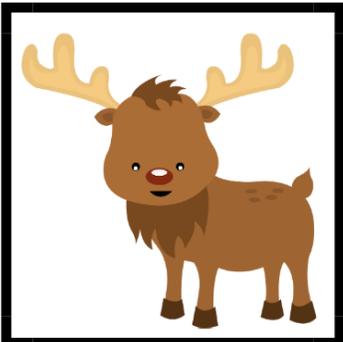
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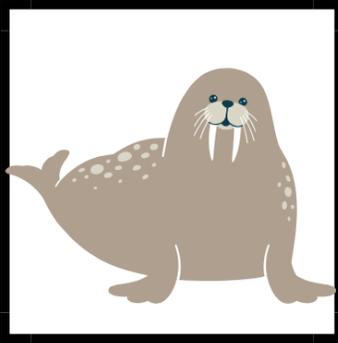
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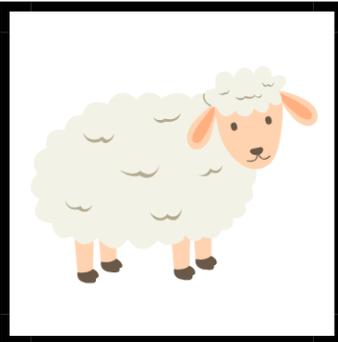
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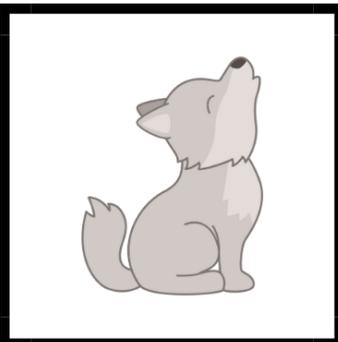
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