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SOCIAL STUDIES, ANIMAL TRANSPORTATION, RESPONSES FOR

Alphabet of Dreams

by Susan Fletcher

Transportation is an important theme that runs throughout *Alphabet of Dreams*. You will find information and activities provided for transportation by camels. Choose the activities that best meet the needs of your students.

CAMELS: TRANSPORTATION BY LAND

For the answers to many of the questions and suggested research below as well as to learn more about camels, visit this incredible website:

<http://www.allcamels.com>

There are several different kinds of camels in *Alphabet of Dreams*.

- ▶ What is the difference between one-humped camels (dromedaries), two-humped camels (Bactrian camels), and crosses between the two (hybrids)?

For help answering these questions, you can find a diagram of a Dromedary camel here:

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/mammals/camel/camelcoloring.shtml>

A Bactrian camel diagram is found at this site:

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/mammals/camel/Bactrian.shtml>

Photos and information about hybrid camels are found here:

<http://www.messybeast.com/genetics/hybrid-camels.htm>

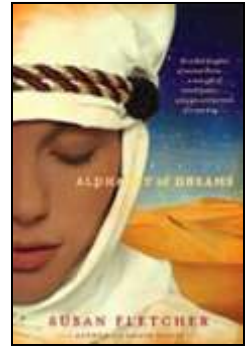
<http://www.camelphotos.com/DifferentTypesP1.html>

Questions to consider:

- ▶ What are the ways in which camels' bodies are specifically adapted to their environment?
- ▶ How is the Bactrian camel adapted for a different kind of climate and terrain?
- ▶ Can you think of other animals specifically adapted for particular environments?

CAMEL GEAR

Mitra is given the job of mending camel gear.



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Questions to consider:

- ▶ What are some examples of camel gear and decoration that camels might wear?
- ▶ What is a nose peg?

There are many different kinds of saddles for dromedaries. Learn about Tuareg saddles, Kenyan saddles, Arabian saddles and Omani saddles.

Questions to consider:

- ▶ In what way are Omani saddles significantly different than the others?
- ▶ Where is a saddle usually put on a Bactrian camel?
- ▶ How does a saddle for a camel differ from a saddle for a horse?
- ▶ What other means of transportation were used in the ancient times?

Just for fun ~ riding camels

At this website you will find locations around the US where you can ride a camel:

<http://www.allcamels.com/links/Riding/NorthAmerica/>