

TOPIC 6 – ROLES OF FIREFIGHTERS

Teachers should print this sheet and make it available to each student group allocated to this topic. *Two groups maximum per Topic



Learning Intentions

We are learning about Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV) and Victorian firefighters

- Students will understand that they can call on FRV firefighters to perform a variety of emergency response roles.
- Students will gain knowledge of the various types of equipment and protective clothing FRV firefighters use.
- Students will gain knowledge of the various skills, abilities and values required of firefighters.

Essential Questions

1. What emergency response roles do FRV firefighters perform in Victoria?
2. What equipment do FRV firefighters use in their jobs?
3. What specific protective clothing do firefighters wear to safely perform each emergency response role?
4. What skills, abilities and values are required of firefighters?

Key Understandings

- FRV firefighters can be called on to perform many emergency response roles in addition to putting out fires
- FRV was established in 2020 and is a fire brigade for my local area.
- Firefighters use various types of equipment and wear various articles of protective clothing.
- Firefighters possess many different skills and abilities and require a high level of fitness.
- Firefighters display teamwork, leadership and responsibility in their work.

Key Skills

Students will be able to:

- Recognise FRV and the Country Fire Authority as two of the fire and emergency services for Victorians.

Success Criteria – Rubric

I will be successful if I:

- Demonstrate my understanding of Fire Rescue Victoria and the roles of Victorian firefighters by the completion and presentation of a guided inquiry group project.
- Listen and participate when my classmates present their group projects to my class.
- Actively listen, participate and engage with the firefighters during their visit.
- Use the Victorian website references as assigned below.

	Excellent	Good	Developing
Presentation	Work was well presented and easy to understand. The presentation engaged the audience.	Most of the work was well presented and easy to understand. Most of the presentation engaged the audience.	Most of the work was not well presented or hard to understand. Some of the presentation engaged the audience.
Content	All Information was accurate, showed excellent use of listed resources and was written in the student's own words.	Most information was accurate, showed good use of listed references and was mostly written in the student's own words.	Some of the information was inaccurate or incomplete, there was little use of listed references and/or it was not written in the student's own words.
Creativity	The presentation was creative and unique. The visual and/or audible presentation showed that the learner had a lot of pride in his/her work.	The presentation had some elements of creativity. The visual and/or audible presentation showed that the learner had some pride in his/her work.	The presentation had only a few elements of creativity. The visual and/or audible presentation showed that the learner had little pride in his/her work.
Organisation	Information was organised in a clear, logical way. Information followed the project guidelines.	Most information was organised in a clear, logical way. It followed most of the project guidelines for organisation.	The information was not always logically sequenced. Some of the project guidelines for organisation were missing.

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Each group should choose one of the following activities to display their research into the Key Understandings.



A) Timeline

Produce a timeline showing major events and changes during the history of either the:

- A) Metropolitan Fire Brigade (MFB)** in Melbourne from 1892 up to and including the transition to **Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV)** in 2020.

OR

- B) Country Fire Authority (CFA)** in Victoria from 1945 up to and including the transition of its career firefighters to **Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV)** in 2020.

Display your timeline as a chart or diagram on screen or a poster.

Rehearse your presentation and provide a short summary of your timeline content to firefighters.

References: FRV [about-us](#)
CFA [history](#)
Victorian Govt [fire-services-reform](#)
Fire Services Museum [history](#)

B) Write and Record an Interview

Write a script for and then record a mock interview between a 'journalist' and a 'firefighter'.

This could be done:

- after a particular event eg. a factory or house fire, an emergency medical response, car accident or another type of rescue

Ask these and other questions:

- How did you respond to the emergency?
- What responsibilities did the firefighter have during the emergency?
- What tasks did they perform?
- How did they feel before, during and after the emergency?
- What went well and what could have been done better or quicker?
- What is the firefighter's rank and qualifications?
- Why did they become a firefighter?

As you are writing the interview make sure that each time a person speaks you begin a new line.

The four *Home Fire Case Study* interviews are an example.

Give a short verbal introduction to your video before you present it to firefighters.

C) E-journal or Blog

Write an online journal or blog titled *"My Day As A Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV) Firefighter."*

You are the officer in charge of an FRV fire station on a day shift that started at 8am and finished at 6pm.

Write about:

- How you and your crew spent a busy day at work
- The variety of emergencies you attended
- What you did when there were no emergencies
- Community event, school or workplace you visited
- What decisions you as the officer had to make at the fire station and at the emergencies
- How you showed your crew and the community that you are a good leader

Give a short verbal summary and remember to rehearse before you present to firefighters.

Reference: FRV [about-us](#)
[about-career-firefighters](#)

D) Job Advertisement

Create a job advertisement for a Victorian career firefighter recruit course that would go on social media or in a newspaper.

You will need to decide where your ad will be placed.

Consider:

- Completing a recruit course is one of the first steps in becoming a career firefighter.
- The personal qualities, skills and qualifications that are needed to be a firefighter.
- The tests an applicant may be required to undertake before being selected for a recruit course.
- Including details on how to apply for the job.

Make the advertisement colourful and eye-catching. Include photos. Rehearse your presentation and provide a short summary of poster content to firefighters.

References: FRV [firefighter-recruitment](#)
[about-career-firefighters](#)

E) Report / Artwork

Investigate Victorian firefighters' structural firefighting uniform.

Consider :

- Jackets and pants.
- Helmets
- Boots
- Gloves, etc.
- Breathing Apparatus

Write a report on each part of the uniform that describes the safety features, design and materials used to make an FRV firefighters' job safer and easier. You could compare the modern uniform with uniforms of the past.

Add photos or a visual display showing examples of each part of the firefighting uniform. Use photos, drawings, paintings or even 3D models. Provide a short summary of display content to firefighters and remember to rehearse your presentation before the firefighters' visit.

References: PBI Gold: [firefighting-jacket](#) [trousers](#) [gloves](#)
Rosenbauer: [helmets](#)
Dräger: [breathing apparatus](#)

F) Fire Report

Research a big city fire in history.

Write a report that includes:

- Name of fire. Eg Coode Island Fire, Great Fire of London,
- City and country
- Dates
- How long it took to bring the fire under control.
- How the fire started.
- How far the fire spread.
- Weather conditions during the fire.
- Fuel for the fire.
- Buildings destroyed.
- Community facilities destroyed.
- Lives lost.
- How the fire was extinguished.
- Any laws that were changed or safety practices introduced as a result of an investigation into the fire.

Provide a short summary of your project to firefighters. Presentations should be rehearsed before the firefighters' visit.

References: [history-fires-changes-reform](#)
[famous-fires-and-lessons-they-taught-us](#)