



Lesson 7 - Firefighters

TEACHER BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Firefighters are Community Helpers

This topic could be included as part of a general class theme of Community Helpers. Teachers should initiate the lesson with an analysis of their students' experience, knowledge of firefighters' roles, uniforms and equipment. The lessons will then expand on their understandings.

Young children's fascination with firefighters should allow teachers to easily capture their interest in this topic even though FRV firefighter incursions are not provided to Year 1/2 classes and are not integral to the lessons.

Firefighters' Roles, Uniforms and Equipment

Firefighters in Victoria respond to all types of fire emergencies – bush and grassfires, residential, industrial, transport (including boats), etc.

These also attend:

- Medical Emergencies
- Road Accident Rescues
- High Rise Rescues
- Hazardous Chemical Incidents

FRV firefighters wear a range of protective uniforms designed to keep them from heat, cold, smoke, water, falling and flying items, sharp objects, chemicals, bacteria and viruses at different types of emergencies.

FRV firefighters use a vast array of emergency equipment designed to safely respond to different emergencies.

For more information on FRV firefighters go to: [Our Work \(frv.vic.gov.au\)](http://frv.vic.gov.au)

Essential Questions

- How do firefighters help us?
- What emergency response roles do they perform?
- What uniform and protective clothing do FRV firefighters wear?
- What emergency equipment do they use?

Key Understandings

- Firefighters help us at fires and other emergencies.
- FRV firefighters perform many emergency response roles in addition to putting out fires
- Firefighters wear various articles of uniform and protective clothing to keep them safe.
- Firefighters use various types of emergency equipment

Lesson Steps

Community Helpers

PICTURE DISCUSSION –

Display the **OUR COMMUNITY HELPERS POSTER (pdf)** on screen or as a hardcopy.

Using the questions on back of poster to help guide a discussion on Community Helpers:

1. Can you name all the helpers?
2. What is each helper wearing?
3. What is a uniform?
4. Why do people wear uniforms?
(identification, protection)
5. What equipment & vehicles can you see?
6. What does each helper do to help us?
7. What is happening in the picture?
8. What is each emergency service doing?
How are they helping?
9. Which is your favourite helper?



SHOW VIDEO: [Firefighters are Helpers](#)



CLASS DISCUSSION -

- What do you know now about how firefighters help us?
- What different emergencies do firefighters get called to?

SHOW VIDEO: [**What do Firefighters Wear?**](#)



CLASS DISCUSSION:

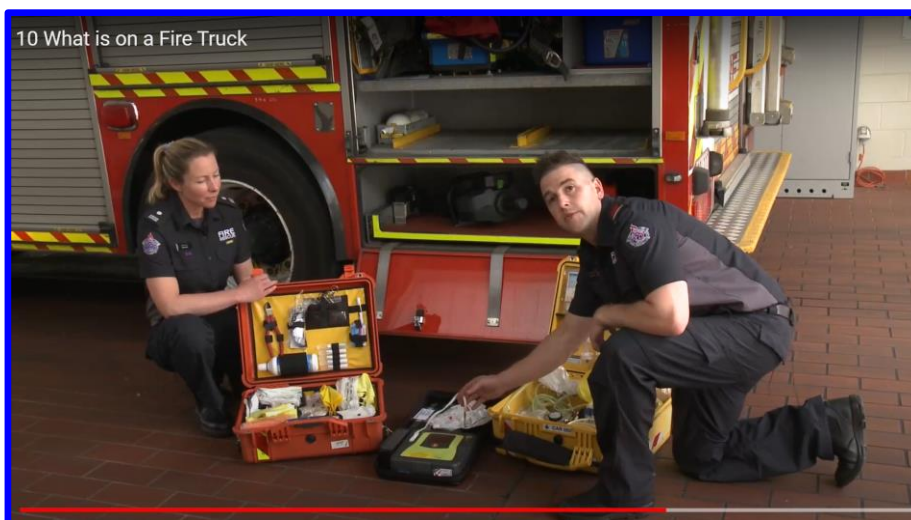
- What do firefighters wear to protect their **Hands, Feet, Head, Bodies, Legs**,
- What do firefighters wear so they don't breathe in the smoke?
- What do firefighters use to talk to each other at an emergency?
- What do firefighters use to help them see when it is dark?
- Do you think the firefighter is scary when he is dressed in all his gear?

WORKSHEET – LABEL THE FIREFIGHTER (pdf)

A Firefighter's Uniform.

Match the Gear/Uniform with the Word and add a descriptive sentence for each.

SHOW VIDEO: [**What is on a Fire Truck?**](#)



CLASS DISCUSSION:

- *What equipment do firefighters use to put out big fires? (big hoses)*
- *What equipment might firefighters use to put out small fires? (small hoses or extinguishers)*
- *What equipment do firefighters use at a car accident? (cutters and spreaders)*
- *What do they use a ladder for? (to reach fires and rescue people up high)*
- *Why is there a first aid kit and oxygen on a fire truck? (firefighters help people who are sick and injured)*
- *Why do the firefighters use the siren on the truck? (to warn other drivers to make way)*
- *What are the red and blue flashing lights for? (so they can be seen easily on their way to an emergency)*
- *Why is their fire truck red? (so they can be seen easily)*

EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Read the e-book [OUR BIG BOOK OF HELPERS \(pdf\)](#)