

Guided Reading Lesson Plan (Levels M-Z)

Title: Firefighters.

Level: M

ISBN: 978-0439350969

Publisher: Scholastic

Before Reading: (5-7 min.).

*Summarize plot (M)

*Discuss pictures (M)

*Unfamiliar book language/character names (S)

*Draw upon students' experiences (M)

Look at the front cover and read the title. Talk to students about what they already know about firefighters and their job. What questions do they have about firefighters and their jobs?

Today you are going to read a brief history of how fires were fought long ago and an overview of the ways fires are fought today.

Tell students: Benjamin Franklin organized the first fire company in Philadelphia in 1736. Before that time, cities only had a fire watchman and volunteers to put out fires. By 1900, the largest cities all had fire hydrants, fire alarm systems, and fire departments with fighters on salary.

Students will read about trucks, equipment, the fire house, forest fires, building fires, and fire on the water. The book briefly talks about fire safety.

*New or important words (V): p. 5 equipment; p. 11 hydrant; p. 14 gear

Unusual aspect of text layout (V)

Suggested Teaching Point (Behaviors to Notice and Support) or focus on a Comprehension Strategy:

connections, questions, inferences, visualizing, summarizing, synthesizing, determining importance.

Good readers think about (infer) what lesson the author may be trying to teach them.

Good readers use text features to help understand nonfiction.

During Reading: (10-15 min.)

Students silently read the text, or you may choose to listen to a few whisper read the text. While students are silently reading, you can start another group or conference with students.

After Reading: (8-10 min.)

*Discuss the story

-clarify confusion, revisiting parts of the text that posed problems for readers

-acknowledge partially correct responses, seeking to understand students' perspectives

*Connect discussion to the teaching point and/or a comprehension strategy (see above)

Discuss main idea and supporting details of each section.

Talk about and make a list of more fire safety tips...especially for children.

What type of person would make a good firefighter?

Writing Connection (optional):

Have students write a paragraph explaining how fires were fought long ago, and compare them to how fires are fought today.

Have students draw a fire truck, label the important equipment.

Students could also read about the Great Chicago Fire.