

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **FIREFIGHTERS: A HIGH-RISK PROFESSION**

Some professions are considered high risk because the people who perform them can suffer accidents, or they may encounter dangerous situations. One of the most common high-risk professions is the firefighter.



The firefighter's main job is putting out fires, but it is not their only task. They are also called when there are floods, traffic accidents, natural disasters, evacuations, rescues, or whenever someone needs them.

It is thought that the profession of the firefighter has a long history because of remains possibly belonging to this profession were discovered from the times of Ancient Rome, thousands of years ago. Of course, their techniques and resources are more sophisticated today, but we are thankful that they were already working in this field at that time.



Firefighters typically work in teams when they go to a job. Teams can be coordinated and assigned different actions. The job is always more effective when working together. Depending on the type of work assigned to them, firefighters are grouped into forest firefighters, urban, marine, etc.

Volunteer firefighters must also be mentioned. They perform their work without getting any kind of compensation. They help the neediest without expecting a salary. They are people with big hearts.



Firefighters work in buildings called fire stations. Fire stations are distributed throughout the city, to be able to serve all places equally. Firefighters train and prepare the equipment for any emergency at the fire stations. They park the fire trucks there.



The fire engines are equipped for any circumstance. They carry all the tools and materials needed to help citizens. To drive a fire truck, you must get a special driver's license and be able to drive carefully; since, sometimes, they must move very fast through the streets.

If you want to be a firefighter, you should know that it requires tough preparation. You must be in excellent physical shape. Becoming a firefighter requires hard training in different physical activities, such as climbing up a rope using only your hands, swimming up to 100 meters, or



running 2 or 3 kilometers within a specific time. Also, you must be well educated to pass difficult tests on subjects, such as physics, chemistry, and mathematics. Finally, firefighters must pass a series of psychological tests and have good social skills. Is it an easy profession?

If you are ever in an emergency, remember that you should call 911. This number is not the same in all countries. For example, in Spain, the emergency number is 112, in Colombia, it is 119, and in Argentina, it is 100. Remember to stay calm and do not lose your temper. The more detailed information you give, the better and easier the rescue maneuver will be.







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### ANSWER THE QUESTIONS.



1. If you see smoke and fire, what do you think is happening?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What do you have to do in a dangerous situation?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why should we thank the firefighters?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Connect the following words with arrows:

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| - Risk        | - Difficult   |
| - Calm        | - Work        |
| - Hard        | - Together    |
| - Profession  | - Tranquility |
| - Cooperative | - Danger      |



5. Do you think you would like to be a firefighter? Why?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_





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6. Do you think it is an easy or difficult profession? Why?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Why do you think firefighters must prepare so much?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Why you must get a special permit to drive a fire truck?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

9. If there were no firefighters, what do you think could happen?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Reflect. Are there firefighters in all parts of the world? If you don't think so, what solution could you propose?

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\_\_\_\_\_

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