

A Visit to the Fire Station



Christine found a seat on the school bus. Her friend Katelyn sat beside her. Today, they were taking a class field trip to the local fire station. At the station, they would tour the building, check out the fire trucks, and speak with the firefighters.

Christine was nervous but excited. What would the fire trucks look like up close? What would the firefighters say? What if there was a fire while they were at the station?

The bus pulled from the school parking lot, and Christine relaxed in her seat. They were on their way. Soon, all her questions would be answered.

The bus arrived at the fire station, and the students climbed out and entered the building. They were greeted by a group of firefighters. The firefighters wore thick pants with blue tee shirts. The shirts had the fire station's emblem on them.

"Welcome to the station," said one of the firefighters. He led them through the station where they saw a kitchen, a room with beds, offices, and the garage. Inside the garage, they found fire engines.

The bright, shiny, red trucks towered over Christine and her friends. They took up most of the space in the garage.

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"When we get a call for a fire," the firefighter explained, "we dress out in our safety gear." He pointed to a line of hooks on a wall. The hooks held firefighter pants, jackets, masks, and boots.

Then he pointed to the fire truck. "We climb aboard the truck and hurry to the site of the fire."

The man opened the door to the truck and allowed the students to climb inside. Christine looked closely at the different parts of the truck. She saw the ladder they used to climb into buildings. She saw the fire extinguishers, oxygen tanks, and the long, thick hose they used for spraying water.

But Christine didn't see any water tanks on the truck. "How does the hose get water?" she asked.

"That is a great question," said the firefighter. "We try to draw water from the nearest fire hydrant. If there is no hydrant, we draw water from ponds, creeks, or other resources."

Next, they listened to the siren and blew the loud horn on the truck.

Christine, Katelyn, and the other students said their goodbyes to the firefighters, and they returned to school. Christine wasn't nervous anymore. She knew all about the fire station now, and she was thankful the firefighters were there to help.

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1) Why was Christine nervous about the field trip?

2) Which detail is not true?

- a) The bright, shiny, red trucks took up most of the space in the garage.
- b) The firefighters who greeted the students wore thick pants with blue tee shirts.
- c) Although the man opened the door to the truck, he didn't allow the students to climb inside.

3) What things make up a safety gear as mentioned in the story?

4) Which subordinating conjunction helps complete the sentence?

The firefighters draw water from the nearest fire hydrant _____ there is one.

- a) unless
- b) if
- c) before

5) Which sentence states a fact?

- a) When the firefighters get a call for a fire, they dress up and hurry to the site of the fire.
- b) The service that firefighters do the country is simply great.