



## ***Fire PALS Preschool Lesson***

### ***Visit the fire station!***

**Background:** Children enjoy visiting the fire station. There are many things that you can do to make your visit to the fire station meaningful for all of your students. Before visiting, call the fire department and take a few minutes to talk to the person who will be in charge of your tour. Let them know that you are using the Fire PALS Fire Safety Station preschool curriculum guide in your classroom. Together plan the visit. Plan age appropriate activities. Ask if it is possible for the children to try on turnout boots and coats, sit in the fire truck, and meet the firehouse dog. Discuss with fire personnel what procedure will be used to remove the children quickly and safely should a real fire alarm sound during the visit. Think about the needs of the children in your group. Are there any activities that might be too frightening for your students? Discuss any special needs that your group may have. This will help ensure a pleasant visit for everyone. A few days before your visit, send a note to the firefighter you planned with and give some helpful review reminders to them of what you discussed. A day or so before your visit, call the fire station to verify your day and time for the tour.

#### **Objectives:**

1. 100 percent of preschool children will understand the basic operations of the fire station.
2. 100 percent of the preschool children will learn that the fire station is place where firefighters work.
3. 100 percent of the preschool children will learn about the fire trucks, ambulances and other emergency vehicles and equipment.

**Vocabulary:**

Fire station, firefighter, fire engine, siren, ambulance, fire pole

**Time:** 1-2 hours

**Materials:** signed permission slips for each child, transportation to the fire department, adult chaperones,

**Procedure:**

**Before the visit:**

1. Read several books about fire stations and firefighters throughout the week that you will be visiting the fire station.
2. Have a fire station discussion with the children. Talk about some of the things that they will see and do based on your planning discussion with the fire station. Discuss rules of behavior for the entire trip.
3. Write down on large poster board any questions that the class may have and bring them along.
4. Make sure that you have all permission slips turned in, and transportation and chaperones lined up in advance. Make reminder calls the day before your visit. If parents will be driving, make sure to have enough car seats available for each student and assign students to cars.
5. Meet with drivers and/ or chaperones ahead of time to fill them in on their responsibilities regarding helping to watch and keep the children safe.

**During the visit:**

1. At the fire station, discuss with the children what they see and do. Take the time to teach vocabulary such as: firefighters, hose, sirens, pump truck, ambulances, and engines.
2. Bring poster of student questions and have the students find out the answers. Have an assistant or parent volunteer write down the answers.
3. If possible and a space is available, have children draw pictures of what they see and do using crayons and paper. This can always be done at school when you return.
4. Ask if it would be ok if the class sang a song about firefighters as a way to say Thank you for the tour.

## **After the visit:**

### **Extension Activities**

1. During circle time, discuss what the children liked best about the day. Ask them what new things they learned.
2. As a class, write a large group story about the fieldtrip. Allow each child to volunteer a sentence. After class, type the story, make a copy for each child and leave space at the top for each child to draw a picture. The next class day, have the children draw their pictures. Ask each child to tell you what they drew a picture of? Was it something they learned or was it their favorite thing about the field trip? Write the student's response under the picture.
3. Continue reading fire prevention books, singing songs about fire safely.