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Exploring My School & Local Community

Help your students familiarize themselves with their school, community, and the people involved in it.

2 reproducible booklets: My Local Community & Our Community Helpers, plus over 27 activities.

Divided into three sections:

1. Exploring the School Community

- To explore the school environment to make the students more aware of the people who operate it and their location in the building.

2. My Local Community

- This resource extends to the community they live in, the different people, the basic needs of the community, understanding that their community may be a town, city, or village. Students will use maps to locate buildings and places.

3. Our Community Helpers

- To develop an awareness of the workers in a community.
- To develop an understanding of the roles of various people in the neighborhood.

Introduction Includes:

- Learning Expectations
- Vocabulary Lists
- Teacher Information
- Preliminary Preparations for the Teacher

Section One: Exploring the School Community

- Provides four detailed lessons for the teacher and additional worksheets and activities.

Lesson One

Objective:

- To explore the school environment to make the students more aware of the people who operate it and their location in the building.

Lesson Two

Objective:

- To familiarize the students with the physical layout of the outside of a school.

Lesson Three

Objective:

- To have the students develop safe and acceptable behavioral patterns

Lesson Four

Objective:

- To involve the students in the making of a graph.

Activities and Worksheets

Our School Booklet Cover and Blank Page

Worksheet 1 School Helpers

Worksheet 2 School Things

Worksheet 3 School Words

Matching Activity 1 School Helper Words

Matching Activity 2 School Word Matching

* Skills: Word Recognition/Visual Discrimination

(Color and cut out the pictures and word cards. Mount them on a sturdy backing and laminate. Store the cards in an envelope. Attach the instruction card to the envelope. The student will match the word pertaining to a school article correctly.)

School Helper Reading Activity 1

* Skill: Word Recognition, Sequencing Words to Make Sentences.

School Helper Mathematics Activity 1

*Skill: Counting Objects by Ones, Recording Numerals

Section Two: My Local Community

- This resource extends to the community they live in, the different people, the basic needs of the community, understanding that their community may be a town, city, or village. Students will use maps to locate buildings and places.

Lesson One

Objective:

- To introduce students to the aspects of community living.

Lesson Two

Objective:

- To make students more aware of the different structures in which people live.

Lesson Three

Objective:

- To familiarize students with the different types of structures found in the community, their shapes, sizes and functions.

Lesson Four

Objective:

- To acquaint students with places that are used for recreation and enjoyment in a community.

Lesson Five

Objective:

- To acquaint students with places that are used for recreation and enjoyment in a community.

Lesson Six

Objective:

- To make the students aware of the importance of all the possible methods of transportation used in the local community.

Activities and Worksheets

Student Booklet – My Local Community

Community Store Snip Art

Community Store Word Cards

Community Buildings Snip Art

Community Buildings Word Cards

Community Homes Snip Art

Community Homes Word Cards

Community Vehicles Snip Art

Community Vehicles Word Cards

Blank Instruction Cards

Community Helpers - Word Recall; Match the Community Helper to its name

Community Transportation- Word Recall; Match the Community Vehicles to Their Names

Community Helpers - Word Recall; Match the Community Helper to its name

Match the Tool to the Helper

Where does each community helper work?

Color the picture that doesn't belong in each row.

What sound does each community helper begin with?

Which one is different? Circle and color it.

Can you follow the pattern!

Help the community helper get to his vehicle

Mailing a Letter - Cut out the pictures. Paste them in the correct order.

Fire! Fire! House on Fire! - Cut out the pictures. Paste them in the correct order.

Section Three: Our Community Helpers

- To develop an awareness of the workers in a community.
- To develop an understanding of the roles of various people in the neighborhood

This section covers the following four areas:

Each area will be dealt with separately.

1. People Who Maintain Our Community
2. People Who Deliver Things in Our Community
3. People Who Sell Us Things
4. People Who Protect Our Neighborhood.

Lessons Include:

Lesson One

Objectives:

- To develop an awareness of the workers in a community.
- To develop an understanding of the roles of various people in the neighborhood.

Lesson Two

Objective:

- To develop an understanding and appreciation of the duties of police officers in the community.

Lesson Three

Objective:

- To develop an appreciation for the role police officers play in the community.

Lesson Four

Objective:

- To develop an awareness of the work and value of the firefighter.

Lesson Five

Objective:

- To extend the students' knowledge about the special clothing worn by firefighters.
- To appreciate the duties performed by firefighters.

- To make students aware of the ways fires are fought.

Lesson Six

Objective:

- To make students more aware of the causes of fires and how to prevent them.

Activities:

Booklet – Our Community Helpers

The Police Officer – classifying objects

The Police Officer - Word Study; Sequencing Letters to Make Words

The Police Officer - Sequencing Words to Make Sentences

The Police Officer - Word/Picture Matching

What does the Firetruck carry?

The Firefighter – classifying objects

The Firefighter - Word Recall; Match the Word to the Picture

The Firefighter - Word Recognition; Making Words

The Firefighter - Seeing Relationships: Making Sentences About the Firefighter

Ff Firefighter worksheet



EXPLORING OUR COMMUNITY HELPERS



Our Community Helpers

This section of the unit deals with the following four areas:

1. People Who Maintain Our Community
2. People Who Deliver Things in Our Community
3. People Who Sell Us Things
4. People Who Protect Our Neighborhood.

Each area will be dealt with separately.

Our Community Helpers: Lesson One

Objectives:

To develop an awareness of the workers in a community.

To develop an understanding of the roles of various people in the neighborhood.

Introduction:

Use any of the following ways to introduce the topic.

- Show a video on Community Helpers
- On a bulletin board display pictures of a variety of community helpers.
- Discuss each helper and his/her job.

Discussion Time:

Discuss how certain helpers help to maintain the community by keeping it clean, removing the snow, repairing broken hydro and telephone wires, fixing broken water pipes, fixing our sinks and toilets, building and repairing our houses, controlling stray animals and looking after them, helping lost animals find their homes, keeping our drinking water clean, collecting our garbage and burying it in land fill sites, and looking after the natural environment and wildlife.

Brainstorm with your students the names of people who help to keep the community functioning. Record the names on a chart. Put a symbol beside each name for student recall.

Example:

People Who Maintain Our Community

garbage collector
snow remover
street cleaner
hydro repair person

plumber
electrician
carpenter

environmentalist
telephone repair person
animal control person



Discuss people who deliver things in the community. Brainstorm their names and record them on a chart.

Example:

People Who Deliver Things in the Community		
letter carrier	furniture mover	courier service person
paper boy/girl	department store delivery person	fuel delivery person
store delivery person	bus driver	florist

Discuss people who sell us things in our community. Brainstorm their names and record them on a chart.

Example:

People Who Sell Us Things in the Community		
gas station attendant	hairstylist	store owner
baker	druggist	waiter/waitress
butcher	store clerk	car dealer

Discuss people in the community who protect the community. Brainstorm their names and record them on a chart.

Example:

People Who Protect the Community		
firefighter	nurse	environmentalist
police officer	building inspector	doctor
block parent	crossing guard	

Follow-Ups:

1. The students could begin the reproducible booklet called "Our Community Helpers". They could discuss the helpers on the cover and then color them neatly. Their first and last names should be printed on the line at the bottom. Reproduce the "Community Helper" pages. Five helpers have been chosen for the students to color. The sentence at the bottom is to be completed as well.
2. Allow the students to have the opportunity to talk about their experiences with any of the community helpers.
3. Make up riddles about community helpers for the students to solve.



EXPLORING OUR COMMUNITY HELPERS



4. Play a game called "Question Time". Each student chooses a card on which the name of a community worker is written. Pin the card to the student's back. The rest of the group asks questions to try to identify the name of the community worker.

Example:

Do you wear a uniform?

Do you drive a car?

Do you carry a gun?

5. A student could dramatize a community helper while the others guess who the helper is.
6. Set up a drama center. At the center place any of the following articles: police officer hat, handcuffs, toy gun, badge, blue jacket, firefighter hat, raincoat, rubber boots, garden hose, mail bag, mail, white coat, stethoscope, doctor's bag, needle, nurse's cap, stop sign, orange belt, apron, tray, baker's cap, rolling pin, bowl, wooden spoon, electrician's tool belt, hammer, nails, etc. The children could dress up and pretend to be a community helper.
7. Read stories and poems that pertain to helpers.

Our Community Helpers

This section of the unit presents a more indepth study of two main community helpers who protect the community. They are the police officer and the firefighter. There are lesson plans and a variety of reproducible worksheets, booklets and activities that may be placed at activity centers for the students to work at independently.

Our Community Helpers: Lesson Two

Objective:

To develop an understanding and appreciation of the duties of police officers in the community.

Introduction:

Invite a police officer to your classroom. Before the officer arrives brainstorm with the students appropriate questions to ask. Develop a chart with the things a police officer needs for the job.

Example:

A police officer needs...			
uniform	handcuffs	whistle	all terrain vehicle
hat	bullets	patrol car	dog sled
badge	nightstick	motorcycle	airplane
gun	ticket book	horse	snowmobile
holster	boat	helicopter	police dog



During the interview ask the officer which items he usually needs. Put a check mark beside each one. When the officer leaves have one of the students thank him for taking the time to visit their classroom.

After the interview write a cooperative thank you letter to be sent to the police officer. The students could all sign the letter or sign a separate signature sheet printing their first and last names. The students may draw pictures showing police at work to accompany the letter.

Follow-Ups:

1. Introduce the various activities that you have placed at the "Police Center". See the activities and worksheets found on pages 96 to 103. Allow the students to work at the activities independently.
2. Read a story or poem about police officers.
3. At the painting center, the students could paint pictures of police officers helping people.
4. At a craft center the students could make a large cut and paste police officer using scissors, glue and construction paper.
5. At a modeling center the students could model police officers, police dogs and police equipment.

Our Community Helpers: Lesson Three

Objective:

To develop an appreciation for the role police officers play in the community.

Introduction:

Locate a picture of a police officer doing one of his duties. Discuss the picture and have the students brainstorm other duties a police officer performs. Find a book about police officers and discuss it with your students and then record a police officer's duties on a chart.

Example:

Police Officer's Duties		
directs traffic	leads parades	makes sure people obey the laws
gives out speeding tickets	patrols highways	arrests criminals
helps lost people	helps at accidents	controls crowds at events
catches robbers	visits schools	investigates crimes
patrols streets	patrols parks	searches for drugs
searches buildings	rescues people	



Discussion Time:

Discuss the various duties police officers do. Talk about how important a police officer's role is in the community. Have the students try to imagine what it would be like if there were no laws or police officers in a community. Discuss their responses.

Follow-Ups:

1. Distribute the reproducible booklet entitled "A Police Officer's Work". Have the students color the cover and print their first and last name on the line. The students will illustrate different jobs a police officer does on each page of the booklet and complete the sentence at the bottom of each page. The students will take several days to complete the booklet as well as work at the various activities at the "Police Center".
2. Take your class on a tour of a local police station.
3. Show films and videos on police officers at work.
4. Discuss different types of police such as provincial or state police, and town or city police.
5. Have your students do some role playing. Fill a container with slips of paper on which are written a variety of situations that would require a police officer. A student will choose a piece of paper and role play what would happen. Encourage the class to discuss what to do in different situations.

Examples:

- A child is lost at the shopping center and can't find his mother.
- A car hits a boy on a bicycle.
- A bank robber holds up a bank.
- A little girl hears banging sounds outside her bedroom window.
- A neighbor sees someone crawling through the window of a house.

Our Community Helpers: Lesson Four

Objective:

To develop an awareness of the work and value of the firefighter.

Introduction:

Choose any one of the following ways:

1. Use a variety of books and pictures to acquaint your students with the duties and work place of the firefighter.



2. Show a good film or video pertaining to the fire department.
3. Plan for your class to visit a local fire station.

Discussion Time:

Brainstorm with your class things they will see at the fire station. Record the words on a chart.

Example:

The Fire Fighter's Equipment				
fire truck	hoses	ladders	helmet	sledge hammer
ladder truck	alarm	hydrant	oxygen mask	bolt cutters
pumper truck	net	rope	fire boat	first aid kit
dispatcher	pole	fire station	extinguisher	smoke ejector
water-proof coat	crowbar	power saw	pike pole	

Discuss the different types of equipment used by the firefighter and how they are used.

Follow-Ups:

1. Write a cooperative thank you letter to the fire station.
2. Using the blank booklet called "What Does the Fire Truck Carry?" have the students illustrate something found on a fire truck on each page and write a sentence or a word to go with the picture.
3. Read the book called "The Fire Station" by Robert Munsch to your class for enjoyment.
4. Read poems about fire and the firefighter.
5. Set up a center called "The Firefighter's Station". At the center place the activities and reproducible worksheets that follow. Explain how they are to be used.

Our Community Helpers: Lesson Five

Objective:

- To extend the students' knowledge about the special clothing worn by firefighters.
- To appreciate the duties performed by firefighters.
- To make students aware of the ways fires are fought.

Introduction:

Read the poem on the next page.



EXPLORING OUR COMMUNITY HELPERS



The Firefighter

I went to see a firefighter
He showed me all his things.
I saw his hose and ladder
And the fire alarm that rings.
I saw the special clothes he wears,
I saw the fire engine red,
The safety net, the fire pole,
Beside the firefighter's bed.
Then someone rang the fire alarm
I heard the siren blow.
I saw the doors swing open
And I saw the fire trucks go.
I wish I were a firefighter
That's what I'd like to be.
Oh, you'd never need to worry
With a firefighter like me.

Anonymous

Discussion Time:

Discuss with your students the special clothing a firefighter wears. Firefighters wear clothing to protect themselves against flames, falling objects and other hazards. Their coats are knee-length and made of fire-resistant material. They wear protective pants and shirts. Other clothing includes strong helmets and specially made gloves and boots. Firefighters use masks so they won't inhale smoke and toxic gases. The mask is connected to an air cylinder strapped to their backs. If firefighters must walk through flames they wear heat-reflective suits. These suits are fire resistant and coated with aluminum to reflect the heat. The firefighter's whole body is protected when he wears one of these suits.

Read a book about firefighters. Discuss, with your students, the duties of a firefighter. Record their responses on a chart.

Example:

The Firefighter's Duties

1. Extinguish fires in homes, forests, ships, boats, cars and airplanes.
2. Rescue people and provide first aid in emergency situations.
3. Keep the trucks and equipment clean and in good running order.
4. Investigate the causes of a fire.
5. Look after the fire station.
6. Teach fire prevention in the home, school and forests.
7. Inspect buildings to see if they are safe.



Follow-Ups:

1. Have a firefighter visit your class during Fire Prevention Week
2. Review fire safety rules at school; for example, obeying the fire alarm, following routines, knowing the exits, routines outside.
3. Have the students illustrate the way a fire is fought in the city, in the country, at a port and in the forest.
4. Have the students make large cut and paste firefighters at the Craft Center.
5. The students could work on their booklets and at the activities at the center.

Our Community Helpers: Lesson Six

Objective:

To make students more aware of the causes of fires and how to prevent them.

Introduction:

Show your class a picture of a burning building or house or a forest fire.

Discussion Time:

Discuss how they think the fire may have started. Have them brainstorm for ways fires are started. Record their responses on a chart.

Example:

How Did the Fire Start 1. Children played with matches. 2. Wires in a cord were frayed. 3. Oily rags stored under the stairs caught on fire. 4. Cooking oil caught on fire on the stove. 5. Someone left a cigarette burning. 6. Someone set the fire. 7. A chimney caught on fire. 8. Someone left a campfire burning.

Discuss how fires could be prevented. Show a film on Fire Prevention. Make a chart pertaining to preventing fires.



Example:

How to Prevent Fires

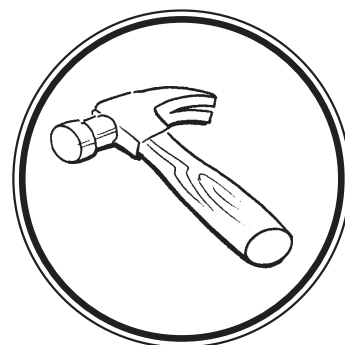
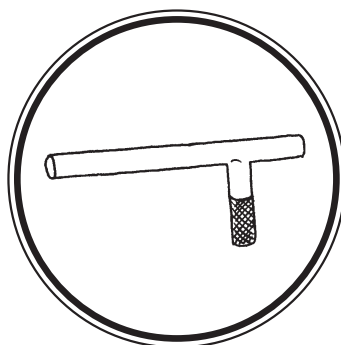
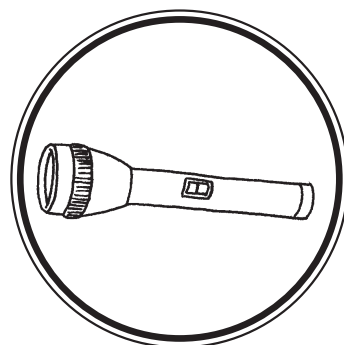
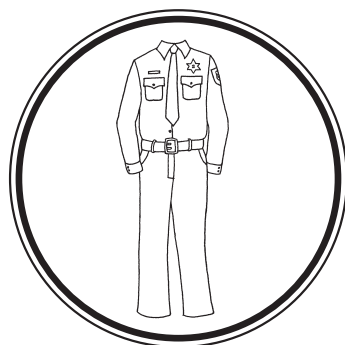
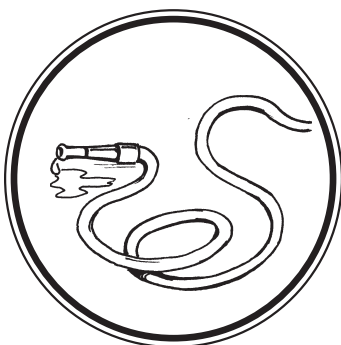
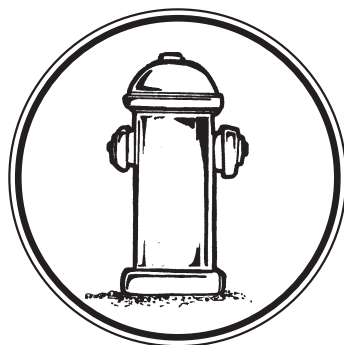
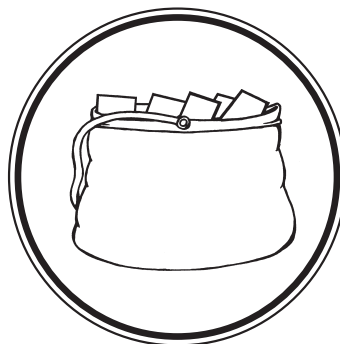
1. Every floor of a home or building should have smoke detectors.
2. Make sure all cords and plugs are in good conditions.
3. Do not overload receptacles.
4. Always keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen and workshop.
5. Throw out oily rags and paint cloths.
6. Store inflammable materials in a safe place.
7. Never touch or play with matches or lighters.
8. Make sure all campfires and cigarettes are out.

Follow-Ups:

1. Make fire safety posters with your class.
2. Practice saying the number for the fire department and the emergency number. Have the students practice saying their name and address on a toy telephone. They could also practice writing them.
3. Continue working on the booklet and the activities.
4. At a modeling center the students could model firefighters and their equipment.
5. Examine labels on things for danger symbols.
6. Discuss with your students ways that they can care for their community in order to help keep it safe and clean.

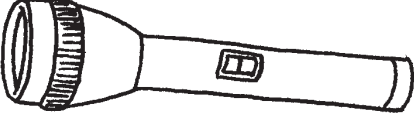
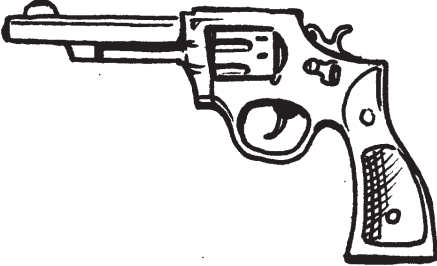
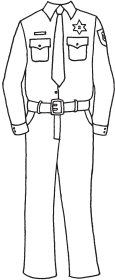
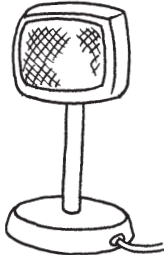
The Police Officer

Find all the things a police officer uses.
Color each one.

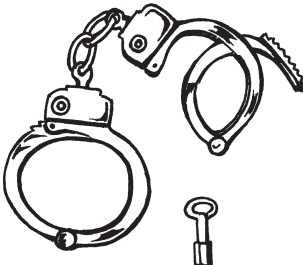


Skill: Classifying Objects

The Police Officer - Word Study: Sequencing Letters to Make Words: Cut out the picture card and the letter cards. Color, mount on a sturdy backing and laminate. Store each word in a separate envelope. Attach an instruction card. The student will arrange the letters to spell the word on the picture card.

		f	l	a	s
h	l	i	g	h	t
		b	a	d	g
e			g	u	n
		u	n	i	f
o	r	m			r

The Police Officer - Word Study: Sequencing Letters to Make Words: Cut out the picture card and the letter cards. Color, mount on a sturdy backing and laminate. Store each word in a separate envelope. Attach an instruction card. The student will arrange the letters to spell the word on the picture card.

a	d	i	o		
p	a	t	r	o	l
c	a	r			n
i	g	h	t	s	t
i	c	k			h
n	d	c	u	f	f
					s

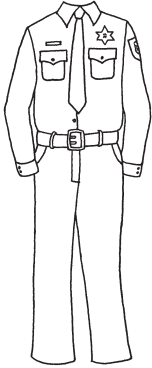
The Police Officer - Sequencing Words to Make Sentences: Cut out the sentence puzzle cards. Mount them on a sturdy backing and laminate the cards. The students will make sentences about the police officer with the sentence puzzles.

The police officer	wears a uniform.
The police help	lost people.
Some police	ride in a car.
Some police walk	in the community.

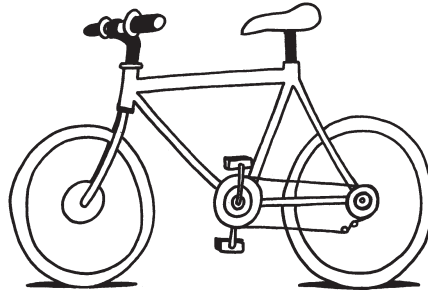
The Police Officer - Sequencing Words to Make Sentences: Cut out the sentence puzzle cards. Mount them on a sturdy backing and laminate the cards. The students will make sentences about the police officer with the sentence puzzles.

The police car has	a flashing light.
A police officer	wears a gun.
The police	catch robbers.
Police make us	obey the laws.

The Police Officer - Word/Picture Matching: Color the picture cards, cut them out, mount them on a sturdy backing, and laminate. Cut out the word card, mount on a sturdy backing and laminate. Store the cards in an envelope. Attach the instruction card. The students will match the word card to the picture card.



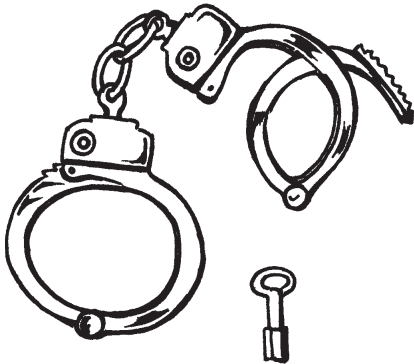
uniform



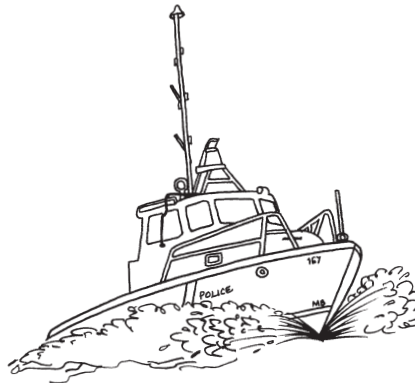
bicycle



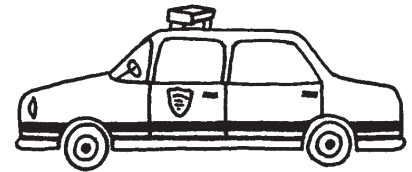
flashlight



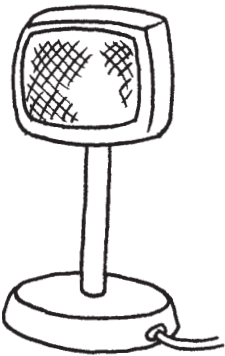
handcuffs



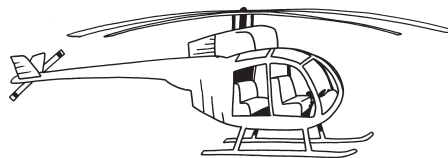
police boat



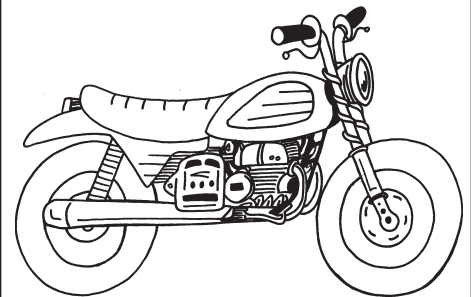
patrol car



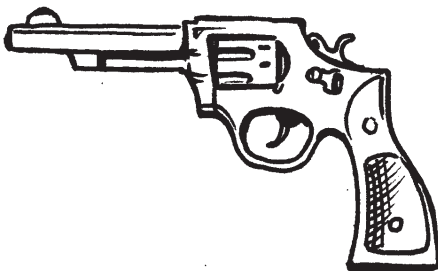
two way radio



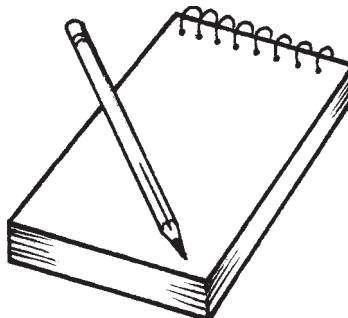
helicopter



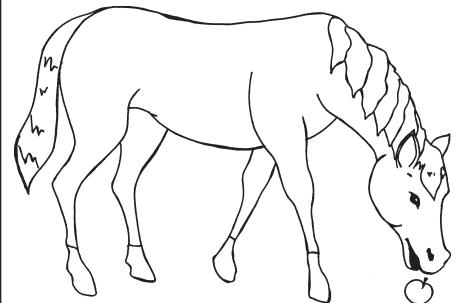
motorcycle



gun

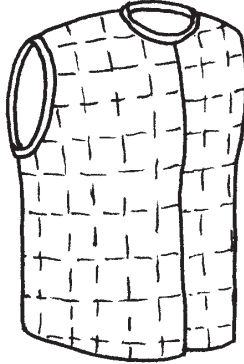
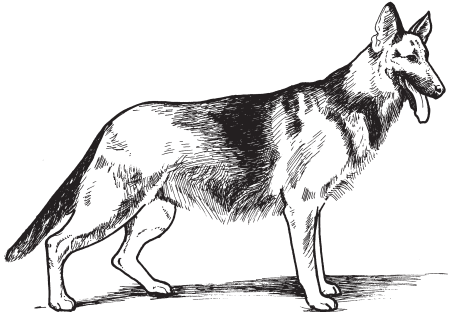


note pad and paper



horse

The Police Officer - Word/Picture Matching: Color the picture cards, cut them out, mount them on a sturdy backing, and laminate. Cut out the word card, mount on a sturdy backing and laminate. Store the cards in an envelope. Attach the instruction card. The students will match the word card to the picture card.

		
nightstick	bullet-proof vest	police dog
gun	uniform	bicycle
flashlight		handcuffs
police boat	patrol car	
police dog	horse	
two-way radio	patrol car	
note pad and pen		

The Police Officer - Word/Picture Matching: Color the picture cards, cut them out, mount them on a sturdy backing, and laminate. Cut out the word card, mount on a sturdy backing and laminate. Store the cards in an envelope. Attach the instruction card. The students will match the word card to the picture card.

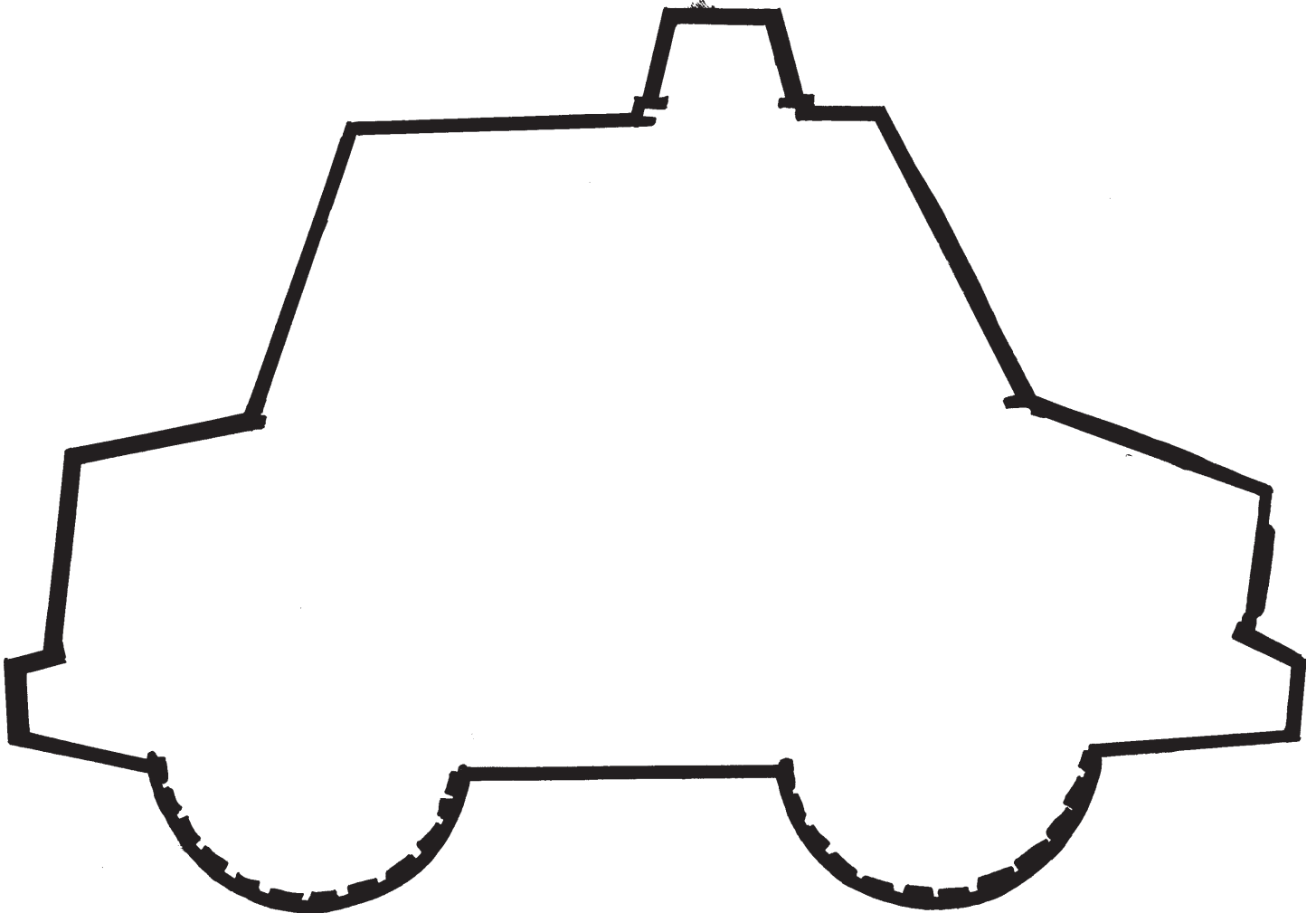
bullet-proof vest

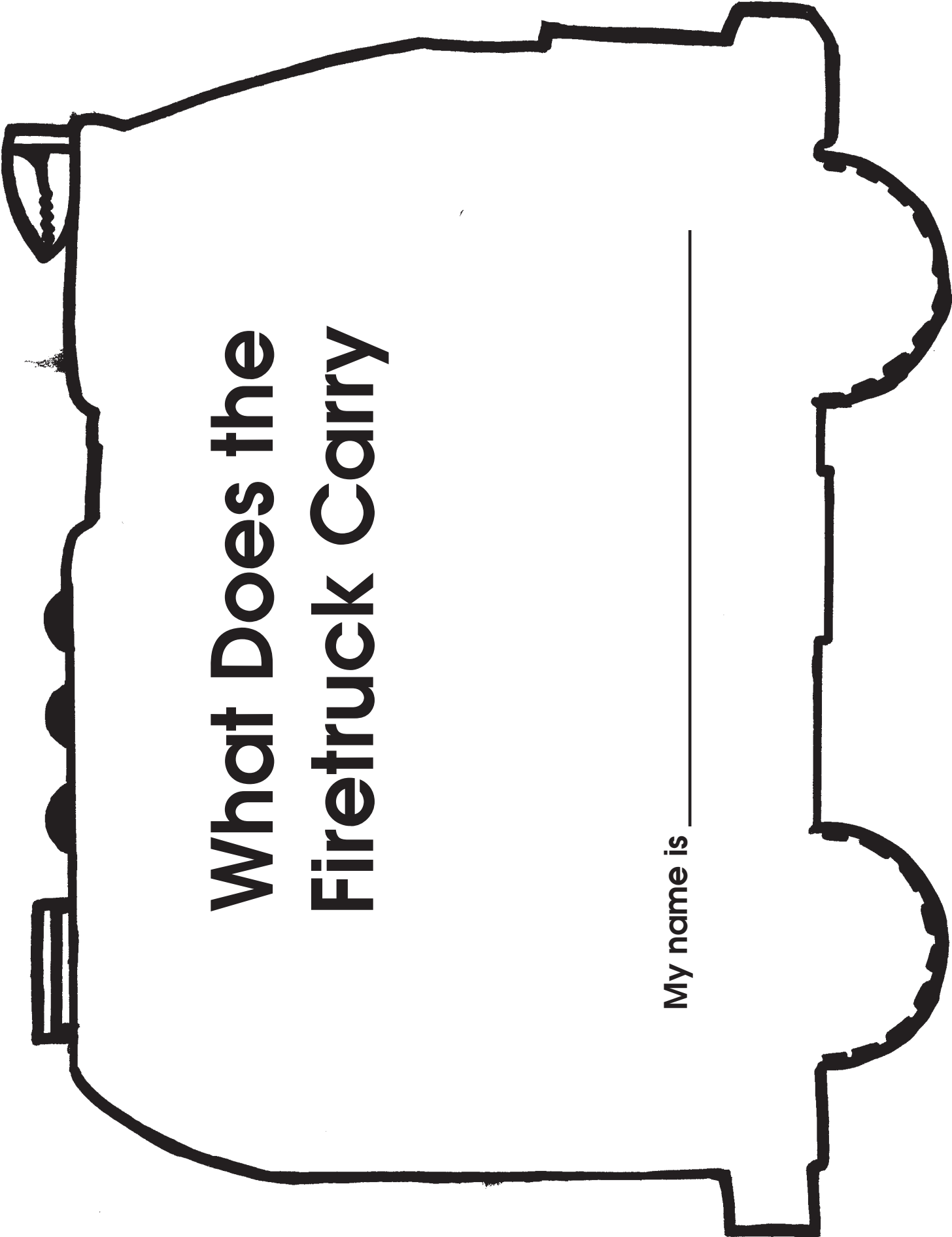
nightstick

helicopter

motorcycle

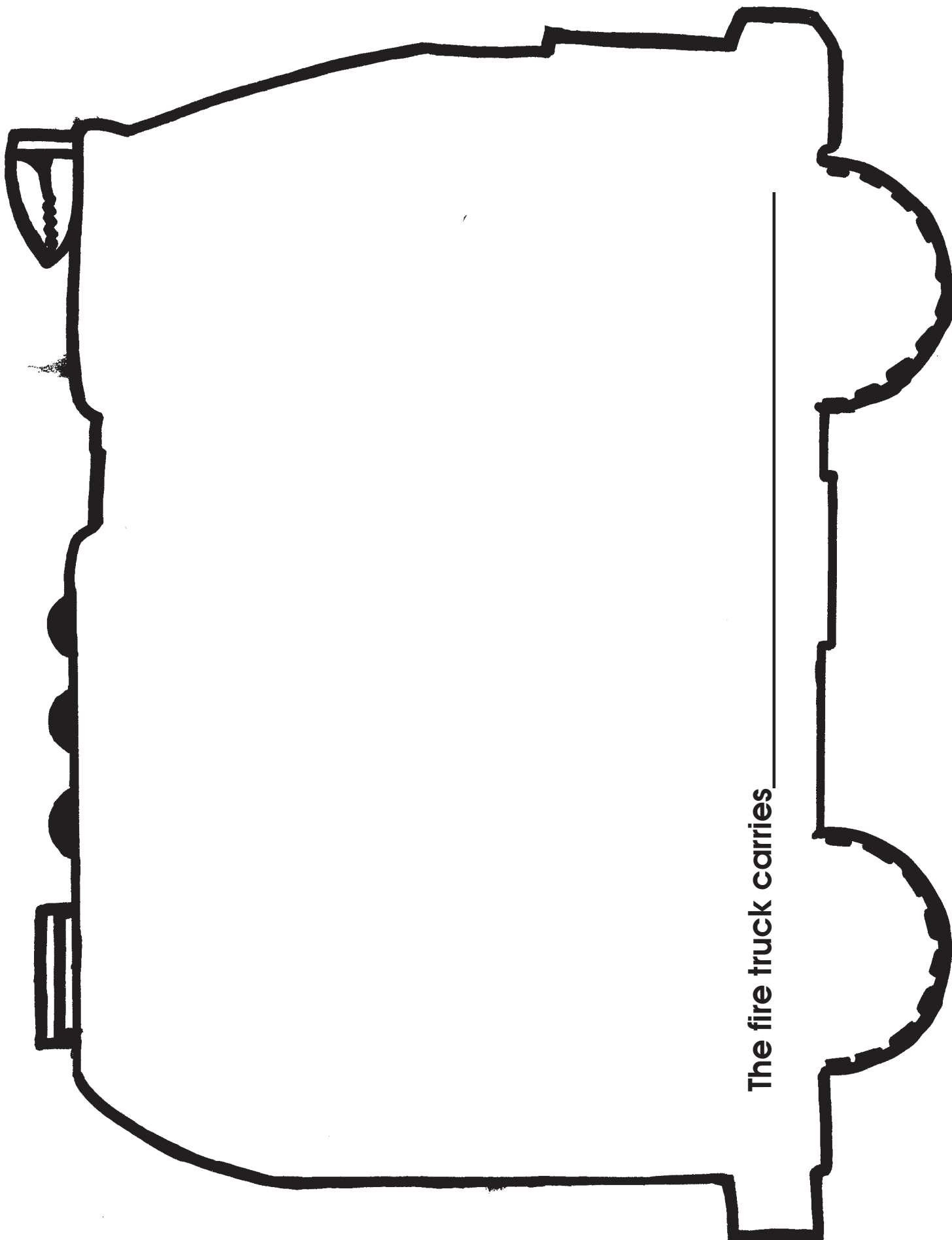
Use this shape card to make instruction cards for the activities.





What Does the Firetruck Carry

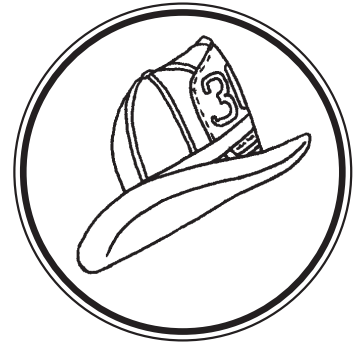
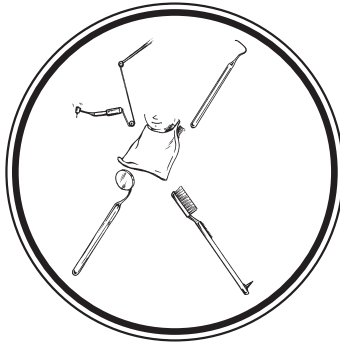
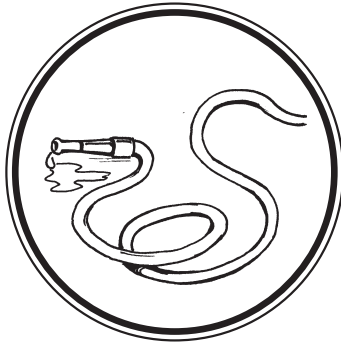
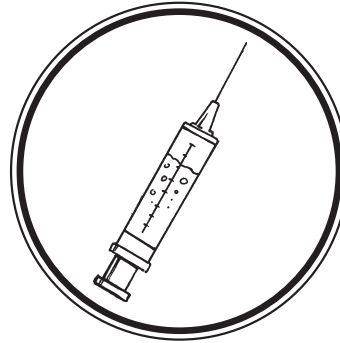
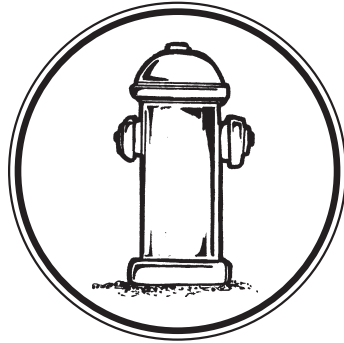
My name is _____



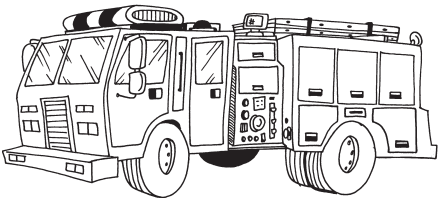
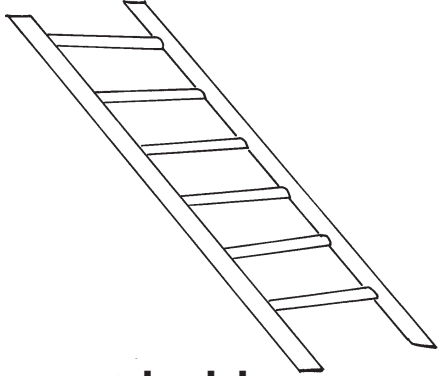
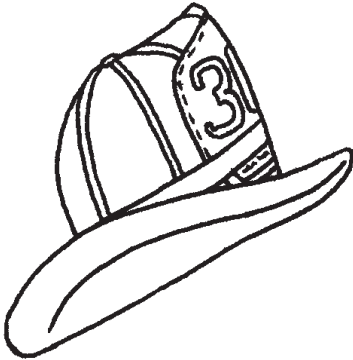
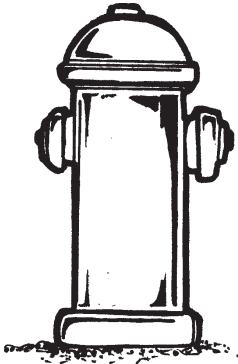
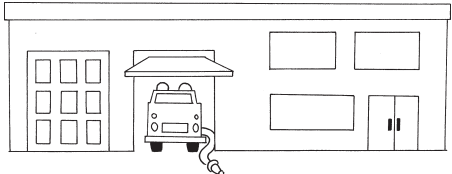
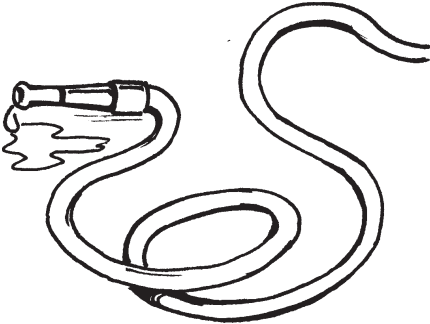
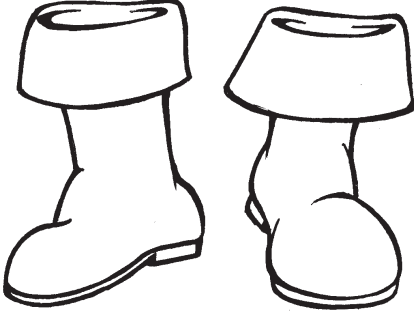
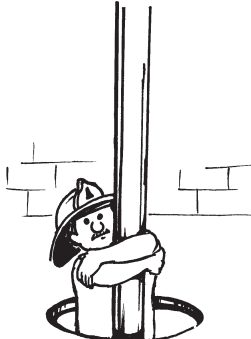
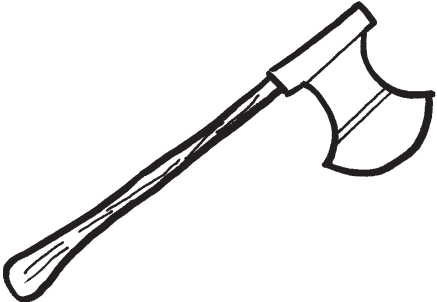


The Firefighter

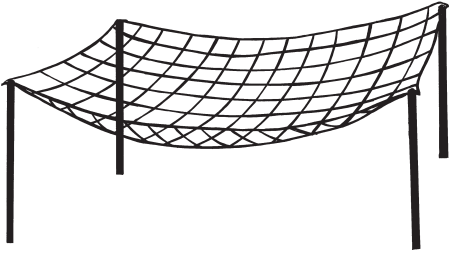
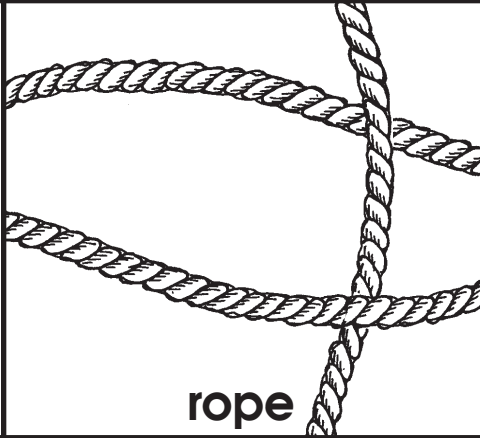
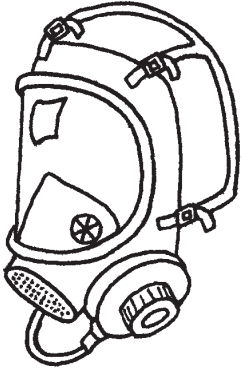
Color all the things a firefighter uses.



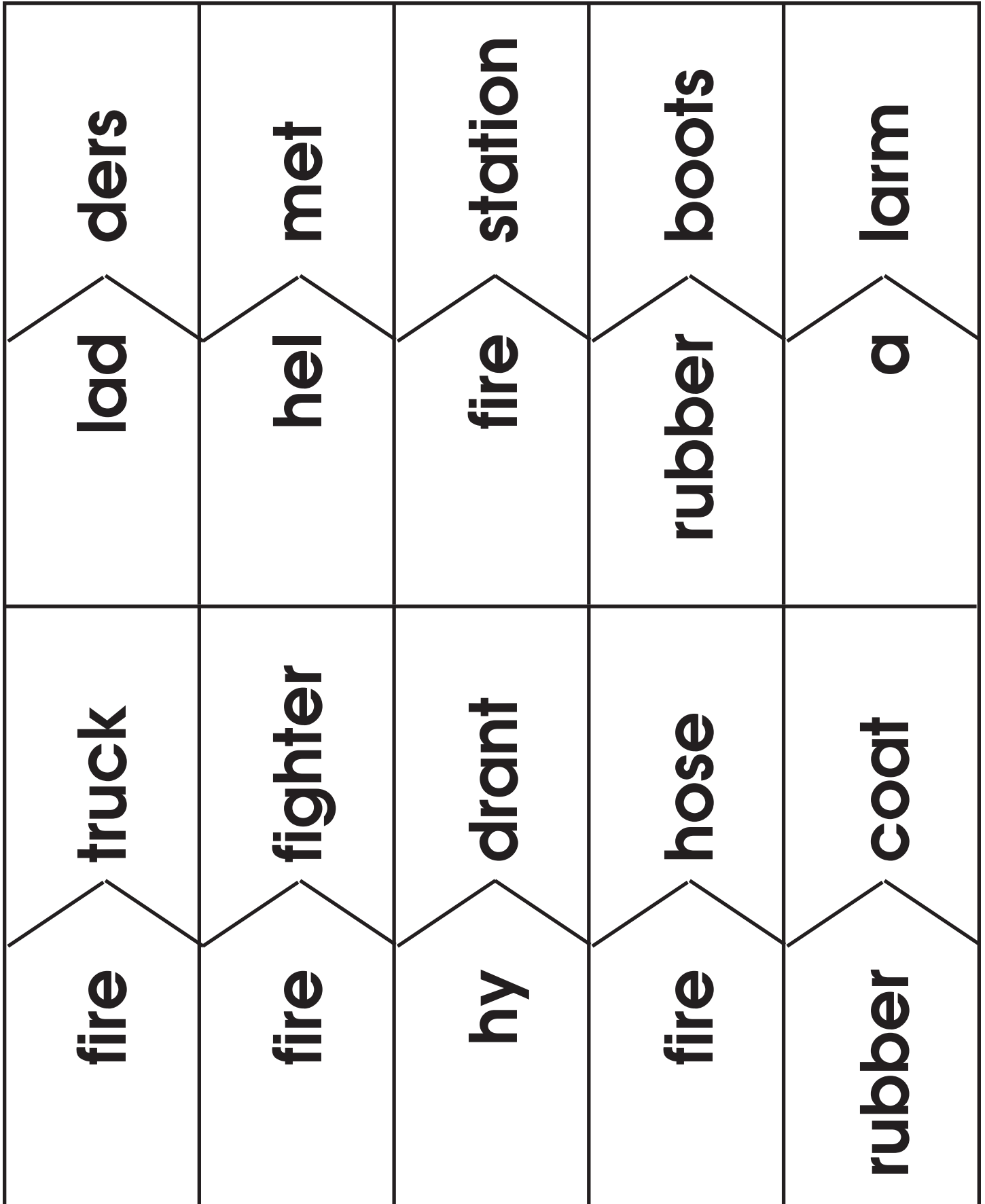
The Firefighter - Word Recall; Match the Word to the Picture: Color and cut out the word cards and picture cards. Mount on a sturdy backing and laminate. Store the cards in an envelope. Attach an instruction card. The student will match the word card to the picture card.

 fire truck	 firefighter	 ladder
 helmet	 hydrant	 fire station
 fire hose	 rubber boots	 rubber coat
 alarm	 pole	 axe

The Firefighter - Word Recall; Match the Word to the Picture: Color and cut out the word cards and picture cards. Mount on a sturdy backing and laminate. Store the cards in an envelope. Attach an instruction card. The student will match the word card to the picture card.

 net	 rope	 oxygen mask
fire truck		firefighter
ladder	helmet	axe
hydrant		fire station
fire hose		rubber boots
rubber coat	rope	alarm
pole	net	oxygen mask

The Firefighter - Word Recognition; Making Words: Cut out the word puzzles, mount them on a sturdy backing and laminate. Store the word puzzle pieces in an envelope. Attach the instruction card to the envelope. The student will make words pertaining to the firefighter.



The Firefighter - Seeing Relationships: Making Sentences About the Firefighter: Cut out the sentence puzzle pieces. Mount them on a sturdy backing and laminate. Store the pieces in an envelope. Attach an instruction card. The student will make sentences and read them to the teacher.

A firefighter	fights fires.
The firefighters	sleep at the station.
Firefighters slide	down a pole.
Two firefighters must	hold the hose.
Firefighters clean	the fire station.
Water comes from	a fire hydrant.

F f fire fighter

Circle and color all the pictures that begin like firefighter.

