

Fighting Fires

GOALS

Comprehension

Discuss and model how to summarise the text.

Vocabulary

Focus High-frequency Words: all, can, down, get, help, know, out, their

Focus Content Words: air, alarm, drone, fire, firefighters, flames, fuel, heat, siren, smoke

Phonics

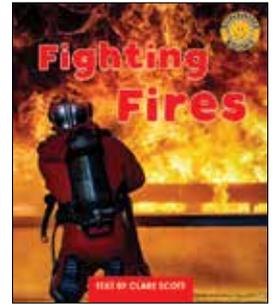
Letters and Sounds: Recognise and produce words that have the same vowel sound:

igh long i

Words to Blend and Segment: fight, high, light, night, right

Fluency

Model reading a section of the text using expression and emphasis to convey information for students to repeat.



Fire is dangerous and wherever it happens, firefighters fight it.

Before Reading

- Ask students what they notice about the title. (alliteration) Read the title together. Ask: Who wrote the text? Have you read any others by Clare Scott? (*Boing, Write On*) Students share their experiences.
- Discuss the pictures on the cover and title page. Ask: What do the photos show about fighting fires? What do you think will happen in the book? How do you know this book is non-fiction?
- Read the title and the table of contents to get an idea of what is going to be in the text.
- Talk/walk through the pictures. Notice the dangers firefighters face and what they have to wear. Discuss what students see on each page. Bring words like *air, alarm, drone, fire, firefighters, flames, fuel, heat, siren*, into the conversation. Notice the things that help keep people safe from fire.

Reading the Text

- Read the cover and the contents page together.
- On pages 2–3, ask: What do you see in the photo? What makes fire? Look at the text for some clues. Look for the arrows. Discuss what *fuel* is. Look for tricky words like *smoke, flames, burning*. Break the words into chunks or syllables, e.g. *sm-o-ke* (long o and a silent e) Then read the text together, pointing to the words as they are read. Remind students to make sure the words make sense, look right and sound right.
- On pages 4–5, ask: What do you see? Share any experiences students have had with firefighters. What did they wear? Read the words together.
- Follow this pattern for each page, discussing the pictures and what the tricky words are before reading each page.
- Students use the index to find the page with more information about fire trucks. They can ask a partner questions about the index, e.g. What page is the helicopter on?

After Reading

Check the accuracy of students' predictions. Invite them to discuss the text. Prompt if needed.

- Who wants to be a firefighter when they grow up? What kind of clothes do they wear? Where would you find a siren and what is it used for? (page 7)
- Discuss the ending and how best to stay safe.
- Students re-tell the text using the pictures on each page as a guide. They discuss the special equipment firefighters need to help fight fires.
- Model how to summarise the text. Work through the text chapter by chapter, summarising each. Then look for a main thread or theme that might summarise the whole text.
- Look at the design on the page numbers. What effect do you think the designer was hoping for? How does this add to the design of the book?
- What do you think the author's purpose was for writing the book? What have you learnt from this book?
- Look at the back cover. Discuss what people might need to do if there is a fire.

Phonics

- Write the words *fight, high, light, night, right* on the board to chunk and say them as a group, e.g. *f-igh-t*. Brainstorm more words with *-igh*. (bright, fright, might, sight, tight) Students say them and discuss their meaning. They use them in a sentence.
- Students identify syllables in words and clap as they are spoken, e.g. *hel/i/copt/er, e/quip/ment*. Together identify one-syllable words in the book to clap, e.g. *drone, hose*. Have students clap two-syllable words, e.g. *lad/ders, sprink/lers*.

Word Study

- Talk about the words *all, can, down, get, help, know, out, their*. Photocopy the flash cards from the inside front cover. Read them together. Ask students to find and read these words in the book and discuss their meaning in context. They can play a spelling game with the cards.
- Have students find all the words that use *fire* as a base word. They make a list and illustrate where possible, e.g. *firefighter, firebreak, fire truck, fire hose, fire extinguisher, fire alarm*. They read them together with a partner.
- Draw a picture of a firefighter in the middle of a web. Have the different words for equipment and clothes that they use and wear branching out from the web.
- Organise a quiz. Choose one chapter to reread. Then write questions about it using information from the text or from the illustrations. For example, *Fighting Big Fires* page 12. Question: 1. What is used to help put out big fires? They ask a partner the questions.

Fluency

- Model reading a section of the text using expression and emphasis to convey information for students to repeat. (Note the bold print on page 16.) This is a good message to remember.

Writing

- Write and illustrate a fact from the story, e.g. A firebreak is a dirt road to stop fires from spreading. Share this with a partner.
- Students make a poster showing ways to keep safe. They can use the back cover and page 16 to help them. They label and illustrate it and share with the whole school.