

## Who Are Our First Responders? (Lesson #2)

### Grade Band:

- K-2

### Lesson Objective(s):

- Students will build background knowledge on first responders by reading related texts and brainstorming ideas.
- Students will use fine motor skills to create a tangible item that can reinforce their understanding of community helpers.

### Standards:

- **C3 Framework**
  - **D2.Civ.2.K-2.** Explain how all people, not just official leaders, play important roles in a community.
  - **D2.Civ.6.K-2.** Describe how communities work to accomplish common tasks, establish responsibilities, and fulfill roles of authority.
- **Next Generation English Language Arts**
  - KR9: Make connections between self, text, and the world.
  - KW6: Develop questions and participate in shared research and exploration to answer questions and to build and share knowledge.
  - 1W7: Recall and represent relevant information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question in a variety of ways.
  - 1SL1: Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse peers and adults (e.g., in small and large groups and during play).
  - 2SL4: Describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly.

- 2SL6: Express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly, adapting language according to context.

## Suggested Materials:

- Related text - suggestions include:
  - Pete the Cat: Firefighter Pete by James Dean
  - Police Officers on Patrol by Kersten Hamilton
  - Here Come the Helpers by Leslie Kimmelman
- Related song - suggestions include:
  - Emergency Vehicle Song: <https://bit.ly/3QDBRQj>
  - Here Comes the Rescue Team: <https://bit.ly/3Qgi34k>
- Pre-cut Cricut materials for their job related item
- Glue or tape

## Introduction:

- Gather students to the carpet or reading nook.
- Option 1: Introductory book
  - Show students the book cover and have them predict what the book will be about. Then, read the book to students.
- Option 1: Introductory song
  - Play the song for students with or without the video.

## Lesson Activity:

- After reading or listening to the song, ask students what words describe the type of community helpers they just heard about.
- Brainstorm with students what we mean by the phrase “first responders”
- Explain to students that a first responder is a type of community helper who responds to emergencies.



- Ask students to think back to the previous lesson (Who Are Our Community Helpers?) and identify those community helpers who would be considered first responders.
- Then, explain to students that they will be working in groups to create a vehicle that is essential to the work of a first responder (such as a fire truck, police car, or ambulance). Divide students into groups and have each group work together to build their own vehicle. For example group 1 is making a fire truck, group 2 is making an ambulance, and group 3 is making a police car
- Have students brainstorm in their groups about the object they were assigned and identify:
  - Who uses this?
  - How does it help them do their job?
- Show students a completed example and model specific steps if required.
- Distribute supplies and have students get to work!

**Teacher Tip:** If desired, have students read or watch a video specifically about the type of first responder they are working with to build more specific background knowledge.

### **Closing:**

- Bring students back together in the carpet area.
- Ask each group to present their vehicle and explanation of how it helps a first responder do their job.
- Review the definition of a first responder and highlight their importance in the community.

### **Assessment:**

- Review each individual student's vehicle and explanation.

### **Extension Activity:**

- Organize a field trip or visit from a local first responder to the school.