

# What Does a Firefighter Do?

The first New Zealand volunteer fire brigade was formed in 1854 in Auckland. They didn't have any hoses and only had buckets to begin with!

Great firefighters are:

- brave;
- hardworking;
- strong;
- reliable;
- healthy;
- trustworthy.
- determined;



They work long hours and some even work during the night, which keeps us safe while we sleep.

## What Does a Firefighter Do?

Firefighters are part of the emergency services. Their job is to keep everyone safe by putting out fires or using their equipment to cut strong metal to rescue people who are trapped.

## Where Do They Work?

Firefighters work in a fire station. Fire stations are all around the country so that they can get to everyone if they need any help. Firefighters travel to emergencies in their fire engine. The fire engine is painted bright red and has blue, flashing sirens so that it is easy to see.

## What Do Firefighters Wear?

- helmet;
- fireproof clothes;
- gas mask;
- a light;
- radio;
- steel-tipped boots.



# What Does a Firefighter Do? Questions

Answer the questions below in full sentences.

1. When was the first fire brigade formed?

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2. Finish the sentence: Great firefighters are: \_\_\_\_\_

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3. Where do firefighters work?

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4. Name one item of clothing firefighters wear.

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5. Would you like to be a firefighter? Why?

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# What Does a Firefighter Do? Answers

1. When was the first fire brigade formed?

The first fire brigade was formed in 1854.

2. Finish the sentence: Great firefighters are,

Accept any from brave, strong, healthy, determined, hardworking, reliable, trustworthy.

3. Why do firefighters have a radio on them?

Firefighters work in a fire station.

4. What time of day do firefighters work?

Accept any from hat, fireproof clothes, a light or a radio.

5. What has blue, flashing sirens?

Children's own answers.

# What Does a Firefighter Do?

There are many different people who help us in the emergency services. The fire brigade work closely with the police force, paramedics and the coastguard to ensure that we are safe all of the time.

Great firefighters are:

- brave;
- healthy;
- strong;
- reliable;
- fearless;
- team players;
- determined;
- trustworthy.
- hardworking;



Firefighters need to be available 24 hours a day and normally work in 10 hour shifts. There will be firefighters working even when you are asleep at night!

## What Do Firefighters Do?

Firefighters help in emergencies and keep people safe. They will help with car accidents, flooding and fires. Firefighters are highly trained and work well as part of a team.

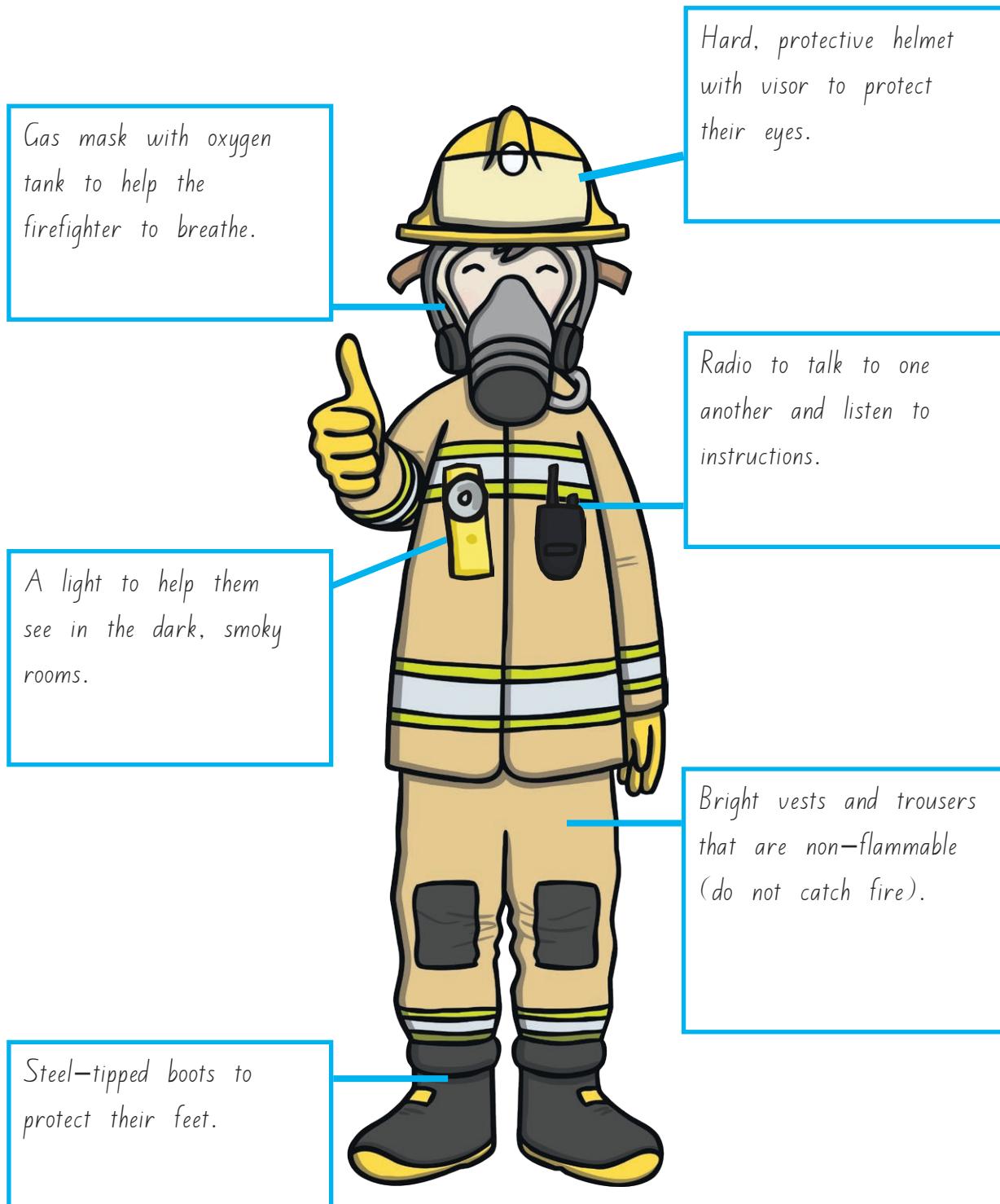
## Where Do They Work?

Firefighters are based in a fire station where they wait for an emergency call. While they are waiting, they practise their skills, rest and clean the fire engines and the equipment. It is really important that all of the equipment is clean and ready to be used in an emergency.



## What Do Firefighters Wear?

Firefighters have two different uniforms. The first is for when they are training and in the fire station. They also need to wear a protective uniform that ensures they are safe in an emergency situation.



# What Does a Firefighter Do? Questions

Answer the questions below in full sentences.

1. Name one other emergency service that the fire brigade work with.

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2. How many hours a day do firefighters normally work?

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3. Name one emergency the fire brigade can help with.

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4. What do firefighters do at the fire station while they wait for a call?

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5. How many different uniforms do firefighters have?

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6. Name 3 parts of a firefighter's uniform.

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# What Does a Firefighter Do? Answers

1. Name one other emergency service that the fire brigade work with.

Accept any from the police force, paramedics and the coast guard

2. How many hours a day do firefighters normally work?

Firefighters normally work 10 hours a day.

3. Name one emergency the fire brigade can help with.

Accept any from car accidents, flooding and fires.

4. What do firefighters do at the fire station while they wait for a call?

Firefighters will practise their skills, rest and clean the fire engines while they wait for a call at the station.

5. How many different uniforms do firefighters have?

Firefighters have 2 different uniforms.

6. Name 3 parts of a firefighter's uniform.

Accept any 3 from gas mask, helmet, light, radio, steel-tipped boots and bright jackets and trousers.

# What Does a Firefighter Do?

Firefighters are extraordinary people, who are incredibly brave and strong. Firefighting is a dangerous and demanding job that calls for total teamwork: it can take several people just to hold a powerful fire hose working at full pressure.

## Vehicles Used by the Fire Service:

The fire service use several different vehicles to respond to emergency calls. The fire engines are most commonly seen in emergencies. The engine can hold 1800 litres of water and carries rescue equipment to help those in trouble. Other vehicles include a motorbike that can easily reach emergencies quickly and a water response unit, which is a boat that can be deployed to reach people trapped in flooding. These amazing vehicles support the firefighters when carrying out their important jobs.



## What Do Firefighters Do?

The main duties of a full-time firefighter are to help protect the public in emergency situations. They respond to a wide variety of calls, such as car accidents, chemical spills, flooding, water rescues and general rescues as well as fires.

## Where Do They Work?

Firefighters are based at a fire station. There are almost 500 fire stations spread around New Zealand. In-between alarms, firefighters must clean and repair their equipment. They practise firefighting skills, and they may perform fire inspections. Firefighting is a strenuous job, so they must exercise to keep fit. Firefighters need to be able to lift people from a building if they are in danger.

## What Do Firefighters Wear?

Firefighting is dangerous work. During a fire, floors can cave in and walls can topple. Flames and smoke can burn or seriously injure people. Firefighters may come in to contact with poisonous gases or other hazardous materials. To protect themselves, firefighters wear protective clothes that can be heavy and hot. The clothes are non-flammable, which means that they are fire-resistant. Firefighters wear a hard helmet which protects their head from falling objects and steel-reinforced boots so that their feet are safe from injury.

## How Do You Become a Firefighter?

The Fire and Rescue Service requires hardworking and determined individuals. To become a firefighter, you need to pass strict medical and physical tests. You also need to take a written theory test. New firefighters are also encouraged to volunteer at their local fire station in order to gain some experience in the profession. Even when you are fully qualified, firefighters are always being trained in new firefighting techniques to ensure that they are ready for anything.



# What Does a Firefighter Do? Questions

Answer the questions below in full sentences.

1. How much water does a fire engine hold?

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2. Name two vehicles that the fire service use?

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3. How many fire brigades are there in New Zealand?

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4. Name three different emergencies that the fire service may be called to.

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5. What do firefighters do whilst they are waiting for an emergency?

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6. What does the word 'non-flammable' mean?

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7. What do you think would be the hardest part of being a firefighter?

Explain your answer.

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# What Does a Firefighter Do? Answers

1. How much water does a fire engine hold?

A fire engine can hold around 1800 litres of water.

2. Name two vehicles that the fire service use?

The fire service use fire engines, motorbikes and water response unit boats.

3. How many fire stations are there in New Zealand?

There are almost 500 fire stations in New Zealand.

4. Name three different emergencies that the fire service may be called to.

The fire service may be called to car accidents, chemical spills, flooding, water rescues and general rescues as well as fires.

5. What do firefighters do whilst they are waiting for an emergency?

Firefighters practise firefighting skills, and they may perform fire inspections. They also keep themselves fit and healthy.

6. What does the word 'non-flammable' mean?

Non-flammable means it is fire-resistant and does not catch on fire easily.

7. What would be the hardest part of being a firefighter? Explain your answer.

Pupil's own response.