

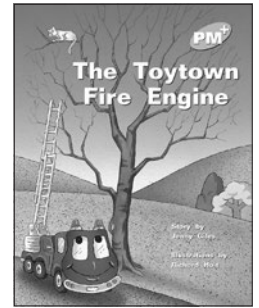
The Toytown Fire Engine

PM Level 6

Yellow

Text Type Narrative

Running Words 105



Preparing for Guided Reading

Orientation to the Text

- Talk about and list the equipment that is carried on a real fire engine. Ensure that students understand how an extension ladder works.

Prior Knowledge

- The Toytown fire engine is returning to the garage when it sees a little cat stuck in a tree. The fire engine uses its extension ladder and successfully rescues the cat from its distressing situation.

Building the Balanced Reader

Concepts About Print

- Encourage scanning across words.
- Talk about the opposites: *up, down; comes, goes*.
- Explain that sentences can be long or short.

Vocabulary

Key High-frequency Words

down, fire engine, goes, here, little

Content Words

tree, little, cat, ladder, safe

Decoding

- Locate and read most high-frequency words.
- Use letter-sound relationships in conjunction with meaning to decode unknown words.

Fluency and Phrasing

- Locate familiar words to help develop smooth reading.
- Apply change in voice to reflect punctuation marks.

Focusing on the Book – Guided Reading

- **Cover** Read the title together and establish that this is another book in the Toytown vehicle series. Talk about the concentration on the face of the fire engine and how the extension ladder has not yet reached the distressed cat.
- **Pages 2–5** Ensure that students are focusing on the print and noticing visual differences. Discuss the endings in words: *comes, coming*.
- **Pages 6–7** Model how the word *meow* should be read, in this case, slowly and pitifully.

- **Pages 8–15** Encourage students to notice the various expressions on the face of the fire engine and to link this information to the text. 'Reading' pictures helps children to understand the story.
- **Page 16** The satisfying ending should be read with the appropriate intonation.

Comprehension

- Why did the cat stay up in the tree? (*Literal*)
- How did the fire engine help the cat get down? (*Inferential*)
- What did the cat say to the fire engine? (*Inferential*)

Follow-up Activities

- As a group predict what might have happened to the cat if the Toytown fire engine hadn't come along. Record students' ideas on separate sheets of paper. Join these to make a flip chart. Have students illustrate their own page.
- Using plastic blocks, have students make models of different types of vehicles. After they have had the opportunity to talk about their models with other class members, display the models creatively. Many children may want to write stories or descriptive phrases about their models.

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Learning Intentions

- We are learning to use different strategies to help us to read unknown words.
- We are learning to remember information to help us understand what we are reading.

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Success Criteria

- I make sure that when I attempt to read an unknown word, it sounds and looks correct, as well as makes sense.
- I can sequence the beginning, middle and end events to retell the story.

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Guided Reading Notes

Student's name	Reading focus	Observations/notes	For follow-up