

WORKSHOP EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Built by The Home Depot Kids Workshops

October 2024: Fire Rescue Truck

Ages 5-12

CONNECT.

Firefighters are community helpers. Even if you haven't seen firefighters in action, you've probably seen (and heard!) their firetrucks driving quickly down the street. Can you think of some emergencies that firefighters help with?

INVESTIGATE.

When firefighters are on their way to put out fires, provide medical help, and/or rescue people, they need to get from their fire station to the scene of the emergency as quickly as possible.

Let's create a model city or town that your Fire Rescue Truck can practice zigzagging its way through!

You'll need:

- Your Fire Rescue Truck
- Boxes of all shapes and sizes
- Paper of various kinds
- Foam board
- Paint and paintbrushes
- Glue and tape
- Modeling clay
- Paint sticks
- Small LED lights
- Plants
- Scissors
- Painter's tape

1. Begin with your boxes, and use the paper, glue, scissors, and paint to transform them into buildings! Start with a firehouse so your Fire Rescue Truck has somewhere to call home. Then, think about all the other buildings in your community—from apartments and houses to offices and stores. Don't forget to include a roof, windows, a door, and any signs that each building may have.
2. Continue to brainstorm other parts of a city or town. Could there be lakes, rivers, beaches, or trees? How about fences, railroad tracks, or stop signs? Use your materials to build as many elements as possible. Little by little, arrange your creations so you start to form a model city or town!
3. Use the paper and/or painter's tape to create roads that connect everything. Be sure to make the roads large enough for your Fire Rescue Truck to drive down. Once your roads are complete, give them each a name!
4. Finally, make your model town or city look like somewhere you'd actually like to live. Add plants, LED lights, and more to transform your model into a friendly and inhabitable place.

INNOVATE.

You'll need:

- Your Fire Rescue Truck
- The model town/city you created
- The remaining materials from the *Investigate* section
- Paper, pencil, and scissors
- Container



Take turns completing the following challenge with a friend or family member:

1. Grab a piece of paper and write down as many locations in your model town/city as you can identify. (For instance: The pet store, the brown house on Main Street, the lake, etc.). Once you've written down as many places as possible, cut out each location name, fold them up, and place them in the container.
2. Then, collaborate to create two or three obstacles throughout your model town/city. Perhaps, for example, a tree has fallen over, a traffic jam has occurred, or a power line has fallen down. Work together to use your materials to create these problems.
3. Now, pretend that your Fire Rescue Truck has been called! Select a location from the container and imagine that your truck must get from the Fire Station to this location as quickly as possible. Determine the best possible route, and—if necessary—help clear up the obstacles so it can get there fast.
4. Repeat steps two and three several times! Each time, decide whether you'd like to add obstacles, change the location of your current obstacles, or replace your obstacles with new ones.

Would you like more of a challenge? Set a timer to calculate the response time of your Fire Rescue Truck for each call!

Share a picture of your Fire Rescue Truck zooming to the next emergency using #kidsworkshopexplore.

Similar to firefighters who operate fire rescue trucks, **Restoration Technicians** help individuals clean up and rebuild after an emergency like a fire or flood.

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