

Cumbria County Council

Chat Play Share

Rhymes and songs



Five little fire fighters

**Five little fire fighters
standing in a row, 1,2,3,4,5
let's go. Jump on the engine
with a shout, as quick as a
flash the fire is out.**

**Four little fire fighters
standing in a row, 1,2,3,4
whoosh let's go. Jump on the
engine with a shout, as quick
as a flash the fire is out.**

Additional verses:

*Three little fire fighters standing in a row, 1,2,3, whoosh, whoosh let's go.
Jump on the engine with a shout, as quick as a flash the fire is out.*

*Two little fire fighters standing in a row, 1,2, whoosh, whoosh, whoosh
let's go. Jump on the engine with a shout, as quick as a flash the fire is
out.*

*One little fire fighter standing in a row, 1, whoosh, whoosh, whoosh,
whoosh let's go. Jump on the engine with a shout, as quick as a flash the
fire is out.*

Younger children

This is a great song to sing when introducing children to counting to 5. Put your fingers up to show the corresponding number as you sing and slow down when you get to the number part to encourage your child to have a go at counting to.

Older children

Once you have learnt the song with your child, how about acting it out by using play figures or teddies as the firefighters? A cardboard box could be used as the fire engine. Give your child time to rearrange and count the 'firefighters' at the start of each verse. Model mathematical language such as: one more, one less and number names.

Chat Play Share...Other ideas you could try....

Share a story or information book together and chat about the pictures and text. Examples of books:

- Busy fire station by Jo Byatt
- I want to be a firefighter by Becky Davies
- A day at the fire station by Richard Scarry
- Flashing fire engines by Tony Mitton
- Emergency by Margaret Mayo
- Peep inside how a fire engine works by Laura Bryan
- People who help us: Firefighters by Nancy Dickman

Talking time

Young children often enjoy learning new words related to things they are interested in. Find some pictures of fire engines and chat together about what you can see in the pictures. Introduce your child to new words they may not know such as 'siren, hose, hydrant, shutter, ladder' and explain what they are used for.



Very young children may refer to fire engines by using 'nee naw' as this is the sound, they hear. Adults can help children to learn correct vocabulary by mirroring back "yes, it's a fire engine". If your child already says, "fire engine" you could mirror back what they say and add an additional word, for example "noisy fire engine" or "shiny, red fire engine". Children learn words by listening to others, so this is a good way to expand their vocabulary.

Fire station visits

If you have a local fire station perhaps you could walk past and talk with your child about what you can see? Fire stations sometimes have open days where you can visit, so keep an eye out for details locally.

Fire fighter listening game

With your child come up with a list of things a firefighter might do and actions to go with these e.g. 'squirt the hose, climb the ladder, drive the engine, put on your boots, roll up the hose'. Put on some music for your child to dance to then every so often shout out something off your list and see if your child is listening and adds in the right action.