

Charlie the Firefighter

Tulip Class were all listening eagerly, waiting for Mr Clark to tell them the big news.

"Next week," said Mr Clark, "we are going on a very special trip to the fire station! We will meet someone called Charlie, who will tell us all about being a firefighter."

All week, the children were buzzing with excitement.

"I can't wait to meet Charlie," said Dylan. "I bet he's so cool!"

"I think he'll be really strong!" said Medinah.

"I'm going to tell him that I want to be a firefighter too!" said Tayo.

Finally, Monday arrived and it was time to go to the fire station and meet Charlie. Tulip Class lined up with their partners and made their way to the bus.

Billy and Amari sat together, talking about what they thought might happen at the fire station.

"I hope Charlie lets me ride in the fire engine!" said Billy.

"I really hope he shows us how to use the hose!" said Amari.

When they arrived, Mr Clark led the children off the bus and into the fire station.

"This is Charlie," said Mr Clark.

Charlie stood in front of them and waved.

"Look at his awesome uniform!" said David.



Charlie pulled off her helmet.

“Hi, Tulip Class,” she said. “It’s so good to meet you! I’m Charlie and I’m a firefighter. Does anyone know what a firefighter does?”

“You put out fires,” said Grace.

“You help people in emergencies,” said Ayesha.

“You rescue kittens from trees!” said Kai.

Charlie smiled. “Firefighters are part of the emergency services and we help keep people safe. If there is a fire, you can call us and we will come to rescue people and put the fire out. Sometimes, we rescue animals too.”

“Is it hard?” asked Annie.

Charlie thought for a moment.

“Being a firefighter can be hard. Fires are dangerous so I have to be very brave. I also have to keep fit to make sure I am strong enough to do the job. But the thing that every firefighter needs most is a great team. It’s the other firefighters that help me do my job, even when it’s hard. Now, who wants to see the fire engine?”



They headed out behind the fire station to find a big, bright red fire engine.



“Wow,” said Billy.

“It’s amazing!”

“If you’d like to get in then I need to see some great teamwork,” said Charlie. “Are you ready to take turns?”

Tulip Class lined up in pairs and waited patiently until everyone had been inside. Mr Clark took lots of photographs of the children sat behind the steering wheel.

"I'm just like a real firefighter!" said Medinah.

"Can I have a volunteer to use the hose?" asked Charlie.

A sea of hands shot up and Charlie chose Amari first.

"It's very powerful," said Charlie. "Hold on tight and we'll do it together. Let's see if the water will reach that building."

The hose came to life and a huge jet of water shot forwards, covering the wall.

"Good job," said Charlie. "You would make a super firefighter!"

After everyone had used the hose, they headed back into the fire station to learn more about all of the equipment.

"Charlie's amazing," said Dylan. "She's even cooler than I imagined!"

"I hope I can be as good a firefighter as Charlie when I'm older," said Tayo.

"She's incredible," said Medinah. "I'm going to be a brave, strong firefighter when I grow up too!"



"I'll be in your team!" said Annie.

As the class got ready to leave, Ayesha walked over to join Charlie.

"Charlie, should I be a firefighter when I grow up?" she asked.

"You should be whatever you want to be," said Charlie.

"The best thing you can be is yourself."



Questions

1. What is the name of the firefighter? Tick one.
 - ☐ Carrie
 - ☐ Charlie
 - ☐ Chris
2. Where did Tulip Class visit? Tick one.
 - ☐ the fire station
 - ☐ the bus station
 - ☐ the hospital
3. What did Billy hope he would get to do at the fire station? Tick one.
 - ☐ use the hose
 - ☐ ride in the fire engine
 - ☐ rescue an animal
4. What does a firefighter do? Tick one.
 - ☐ give animals injections
 - ☐ make up rules and laws
 - ☐ rescue people and put out fires
5. What did Charlie say that every firefighter needs the most? Tick one.
 - ☐ a pet
 - ☐ a car
 - ☐ a great team
6. What did Charlie say is the best thing you can be? Tick one.
 - ☐ The best thing you can be is yourself.
 - ☐ The best thing you can be is a firefighter.
 - ☐ The best thing you can be is a teacher.

Answers

1. What is the name of the firefighter? Tick one.

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- ☒ **Charlie**
- ☐ Chris

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- ☐ make up rules and laws
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6. What did Charlie say is the best thing you can be? Tick one.

- ☒ **The best thing you can be is yourself.**
- ☐ The best thing you can be is a firefighter.
- ☐ The best thing you can be is a teacher.

Questions

1. What big news did Mr Clark tell Tulip Class? Tick one.

☐ they were going to visit the police station

☐ they were going to visit the bus station

☐ they were going to visit the fire station

2. What did Medinah think Charlie the firefighter would be like? Tick one.

☐ funny

☐ really strong

☐ awesome

3. Write one of the things the children think a firefighter does.

4. Draw a line to match up the boxes to complete the sentences.

I hope
Charlie lets me

ride in the
fire engine!

Being a
firefighter can

animals too.

Sometimes, we rescue

be hard.

5. Complete this sentence.

The best thing you can be is _____.

a firefighter

someone else

yourself

Answers

1. What big news did Mr Clark tell Tulip Class? Tick one.

☐ they were going to visit the police station

☐ they were going to visit the bus station

☒ **they were going to visit the fire station**

2. What did Medinah think Charlie the firefighter would be like? Tick one.

☐ funny

☒ **really strong**

☐ awesome

3. Write one of the things the children think a firefighter does.

Any one of the following: They put out fires; They help people in emergencies; They rescue kittens from trees.

4. Draw a line to match up the boxes to complete the sentences.

I hope Charlie lets me	ride in the fire engine!
Being a firefighter can	animals too.
Sometimes, we rescue	be hard.

5. Complete this sentence.

The best thing you can be is **yourself**.

Questions

1. Who were Tulip Class expecting Charlie to be? Tick one.

- ☐ a man
☐ a woman
☐ a police officer

2. Find **two** adjectives that the children used to describe what they thought Charlie would be like before they met her.

3. Write three things that a firefighter does.

4. Draw a line to match the word to its meaning.

rescue

work together to
achieve a goal

teamwork

someone who offers
to take part in a task

volunteer

save someone from a
dangerous situation

5. Write two things Charlie said you need to be a firefighter.

6. Why do you think Charlie tells Ayesha the best thing she can be is herself?

Answers

1. Who were Tulip Class expecting Charlie to be? Tick one.

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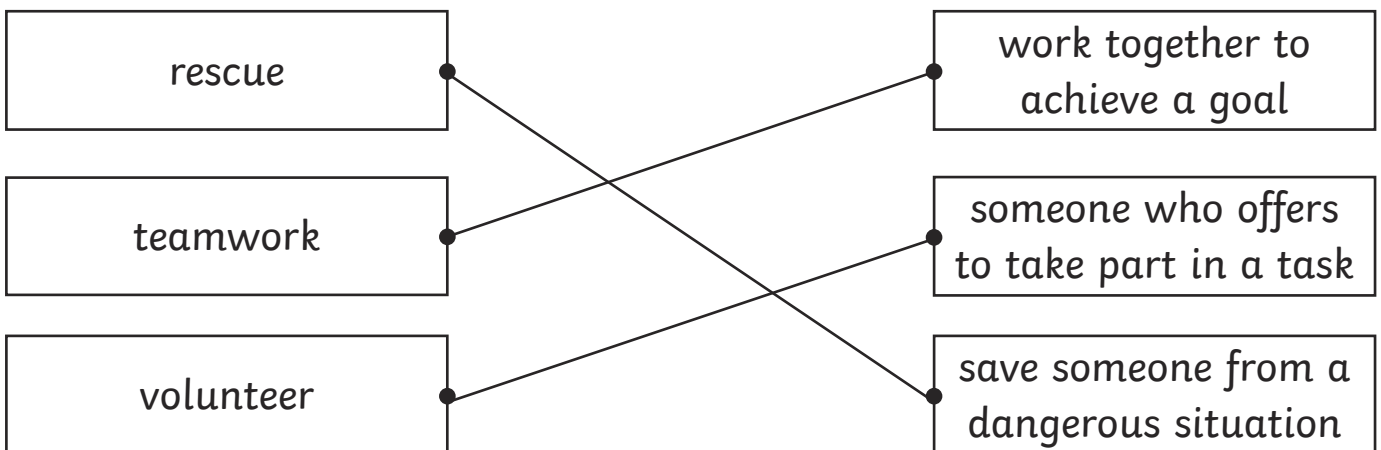
2. Find **two** adjectives that the children used to describe what they thought Charlie would be like before they met her.

cool and strong

3. Write three things that a firefighter does.

Any three of the following: Help keep people safe; Rescue people; Put the fire out; Rescue animals.

4. Draw a line to match the word to its meaning.



5. Write two things Charlie said you need to be a firefighter.

Any two from the following: You need to be brave; You need to be fit; You need to be strong; you need a great team.

6. Why do you think Charlie tells Ayesha the best thing she can be is herself?

Various answers relating to the importance of being yourself, doing something you enjoy, not letting others tell you what you can be and believing in yourself.