

Nonfiction

Helping Me, Helping You!

by Cynthia Moloney



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PAIRED
READ

Poetry

STRATEGIES & SKILLS

Comprehension

Strategy: Reread

Skill: Author's Purpose

Phonics

Variant vowel spellings
with digraphs: *a, aw, au,*
ough, al

Vocabulary

accept, brother, father,
friend, love, mother, often,
picture

Content Standards

Social Studies

Culture

Word count: 470**

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**The total word count is based on words in the running text and headings only. Numerals and words in captions, labels, diagrams, charts, and sidebars are not included.



Education

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**PAIRED
READ**

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Chapter 1 Family Helpers

Lots of people help us in so many ways every day. Just like athletes, we can say that these people are on our team. Some “team members” are in our family, but others are not.

Take a minute to think about some of the people who help you. Who are they, and what do they do?



Many people help us.

My mother is the best mother ever!
She makes my breakfast every day. Then
she walks me to school before she goes
to work.

Mom and I like to read together every
night. We take turns reading. She **defines**
words I don't know. Our favorite books
are about space.



My mother and I
share stories on
our way to school.

My brother is in my family, but he's also my best friend. He always plays games with me—indoors and outdoors. When we shoot baskets, he lifts me up to dunk the ball. *Swoosh!*

Family Helpers

Some children have a sister, cousin, or friend who can help in the same way as a brother. Aunts and uncles are good helpers, too!

He lets me hang around when his friends come over.

Photodisc/Getty Images



My brother and I walk home from school together.

My father cooks dinner and fixes things. He asks for my help, so I'm learning to cook and fix things, too.

Dad taught me how to ride my two-wheel bike. He caught me if he thought I was going to fall. He always makes sure I wear a helmet.



Learning to ride a bike is easier with help.

My grandmother helps me because she makes me feel special. She shows my picture to all her friends.

She's teaching me how to **knit**. She's making a sweater, and I'm making a scarf!



Grandmothers can make you feel special.

Chapter 2

Neighborhood Helpers



The dentist uses special tools to check and clean your teeth.

My dentist helps me keep my teeth and mouth healthy. She shows me how to brush and **floss** the right way.

I go to the dentist twice a year for a **checkup**. She makes sure I don't eat sweets too often—even though I love them!



To find a book in the library, first look it up on the computer.

The librarian helps me pick out books. She tells me which ones are the best. I accept her ideas, because she's almost always right!

She also shows me how to find books in the **catalog**. I love spending time in the library!

My sitter picks me up from school when my mother and father are at work. She helps me with my homework.

When I'm finished with homework, we like to talk and play games together. Sometimes we start dinner. I have fun with my sitter!

Sitters

A sitter goes by many names. Have you heard any of these terms?

- nanny
- nurse
- child minder
- au pair
- governess



A sitter is a person who takes care of you.

Firefighters explain how to prevent fires. They can show how a smoke alarm works. They taught me to go outside and call 9-1-1 if there's a fire.

Builders help me, too. They made my house and school. They built big and small stores, offices, hospitals, and playgrounds in my neighborhood.

Those are the people on my team. Who are the people on yours?



A firefighter teaches children about fire safety.

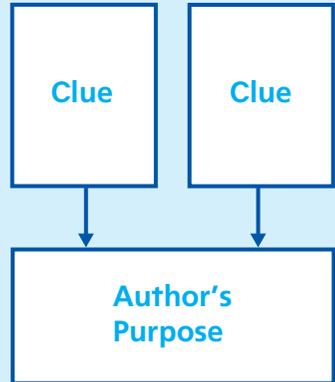
Builders wear hard hats for safety.



Respond to Reading

Retell

Use the chart to help you retell *Helping Me, Helping You!*

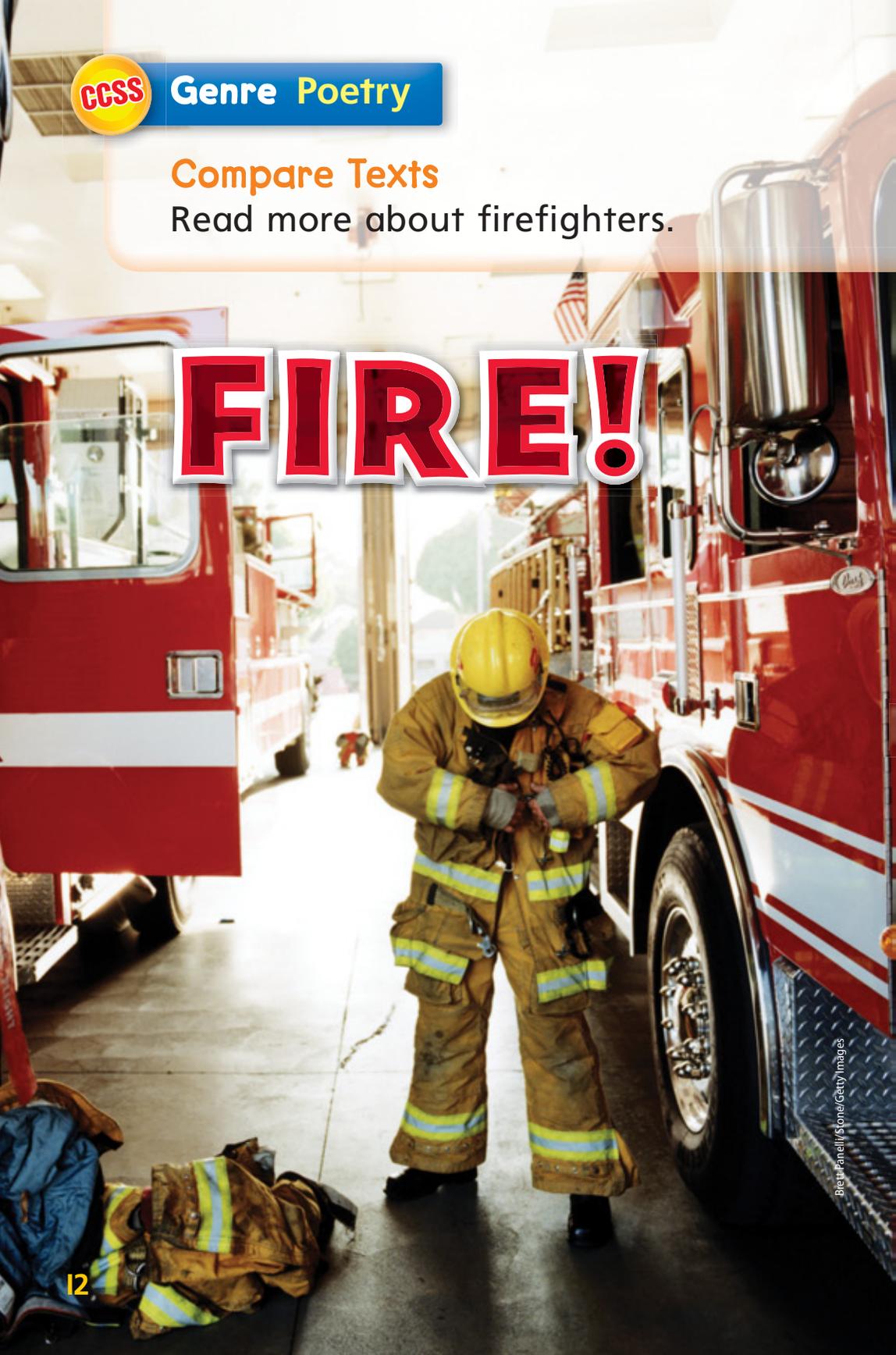


Text Evidence

1. What was the author's purpose for writing page 5? **Author's Purpose**
2. Why did the author write about family and neighborhood helpers?
Author's Purpose
3. Is *Helping Me, Helping You!* fiction or nonfiction? How do you know?
Genre

Compare Texts

Read more about firefighters.

A firefighter in full gear, including a yellow helmet and a brown jacket with reflective stripes, stands in a fire station. He is positioned between two red fire trucks. The word "FIRE!" is written in large, bold, red letters with a white outline across the center of the image. The background shows the interior of the fire station with various equipment and an American flag.

FIRE!



Loud bells clanging
In our ears,
We hurry up
And grab our gear.
Engines screaming
In the night.
Ladders stretching
Out of sight.



Orange flames light
Up the air.
Clouds of smoke blow
Everywhere.
Gushing water
Sprays about.
Now we've put the
Fire out!

Vince Striano/CORBIS



Make Connections

How are the firefighters in the poem like the other helpers in *Helping Me, Helping You!*? [Text to Text](#)

Glossary

catalog (*KAT-uh-log*) a list of library books (*page 8*)

checkup (*CHEK-uhp*) a visit to the doctor to make sure you are healthy (*page 7*)

defines (*dee-FYNZ*) tells the meaning of (*page 3*)

floss (*FLOS*) to clean between teeth with dental floss (*page 7*)

knit (*nit*) to make clothing out of loops of yarn (*page 6*)

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Focus on Social Studies

Purpose: To find out about people who help you

What to Do

Step 1 Think about the people who help you.

.....

Step 2 Draw a chart like the one below. Fill it in with the names of people who help you.

Who Helps Me	How They Help

.....

Step 3 Write two sentences about each person you listed in your chart. Compare your chart to your classmates' charts.

Thinkmark

The Topic

What did you learn about how family members help children? How do people in the neighborhood help children? If you were the author, what other helpers would you add?

Vocabulary

What new words did you learn? What helped you understand the meanings of those words?

Make Connections

How is this book like other books you have read? How is it different?