Congratulations! By checking out and using this backpack from Capital Area District Libraries, you are helping your child develop important literacy skills. Although these skills are very important, they can also be fun to learn.

In fact, every time you use one of these five simple practices with your child, you are helping him or her develop into a lifelong learner: reading, writing, talking, singing and playing.

Here are some ideas for using the items in this backpack:

- Read the books together, pointing out new words as you go along.
- Write some of the letters or words you see in the book.
- Talk with your child about the items in the kit. Ask what he or she thinks the stories might be about.
- Listen to the music on the CD or DVD.
- After finishing one of the stories, imagine together what might happen next.

Read • Write • Talk • Sing • Play

This tip sheet stays with the backpack. For a copy of your own, visit any CADL branch or cadl.org/raisingreaders.
**FIREFIGHTERS BACKPACK ACTIVITIES**

**Firetruck Parts**

I am the firetruck’s tires  
And this is how I go  
Round and round, round and round  
Where the firetruck goes.

I am a windshield wiper,  
And this is how I go  
Back and forth, back and forth  
In the rain and snow.

I am the firetruck’s siren  
And this is how I go  
Wee-o-a-woo, Wee-o-a-woo  
Going fast, not slow!

I am the firetruck’s hoses  
And this is how I go  
Hold me tight and aim just right  
And watch the water flow!

I am the tall, tall ladder  
And this is how I go  
I raise up high into the sky  
Oh, please watch out below!

**Five Mighty Firefighters**

Five mighty firefighters at the fire hall,  
1 2 3 4 5 count them all!  
Jump in the firetruck, open the doors  
Start up the engine, away they roar!  
Five mighty firefighters at the fire hall,

1 2 3 4 (clap) count them all!  
Jump in the firetruck, open the doors  
Start up the engine, away they roar!  
Five mighty firefighters at the fire hall,

1 2 3 (clap, clap) count them all!  
Jump in the firetruck, open the doors  
Start up the engine, away they roar!  
Five mighty firefighters at the fire hall,

1 2 (clap, clap, clap) count them all!  
Jump in the firetruck, open the doors  
Start up the engine, away they roar!  
Five mighty firefighters at the fire hall,

1 (clap, clap, clap, clap) count them all!  
Jump in the firetruck, open the doors  
Start up the engine, away they roar!  
Five mighty firefighters at the fire hall,

(clap, clap, clap, clap, clap) count them all!  
Jump in the firetruck, open the doors  
Start up the engine, away they roar!

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**Playtime** – allow children to explore the flannelboard set while playing the CD at an indoor-voice level  
[Note: with older children, you might try a question-and-answer activity using Firefighters A to Z. For example, “Why do you think some firehalls have a pole to slide down?”]

**Read** selected pages from *Firefighters A to Z* and use corresponding flannelboard pieces for emphasis.

**Read** *Fire, Fuego, Brave Bomberos!*

**Play** *Stop, Drop, and Roll!* On the music CD and encourage audience participation as appropriate.