

All week, the children were buzzing with excitement.



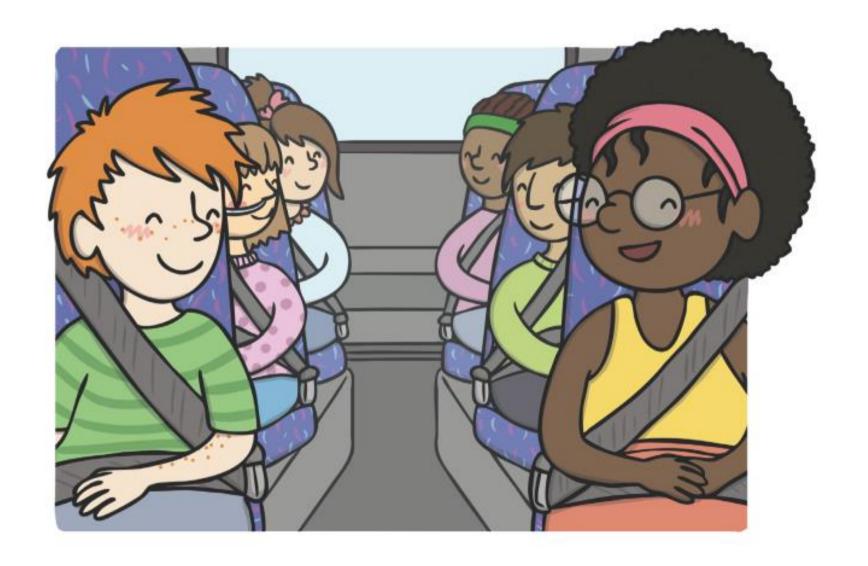
"I can't wait to meet Charlie," said Dylan. "I bet he's so cool!"





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.

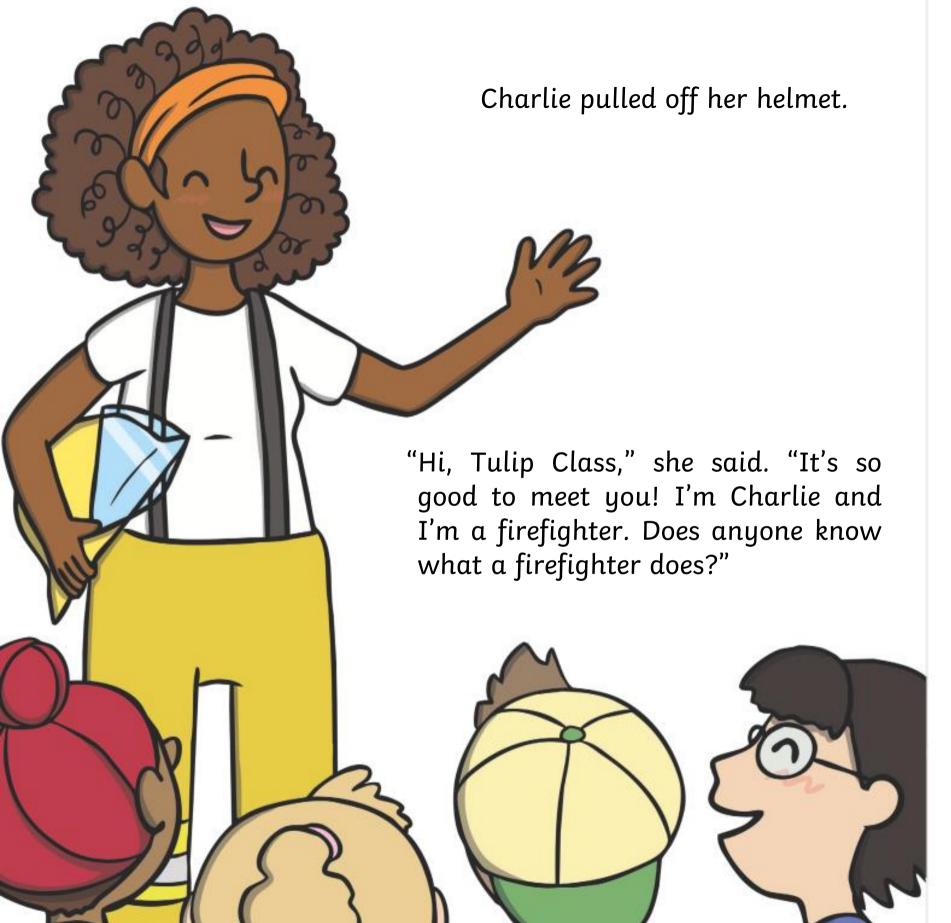
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When they arrived, Mr Clark led the children off the bus and into the fire station.

"This is Charlie," said Mr Clark. Charlie stood in front of them and waved. . "Look at his awesome uniform!" said David.

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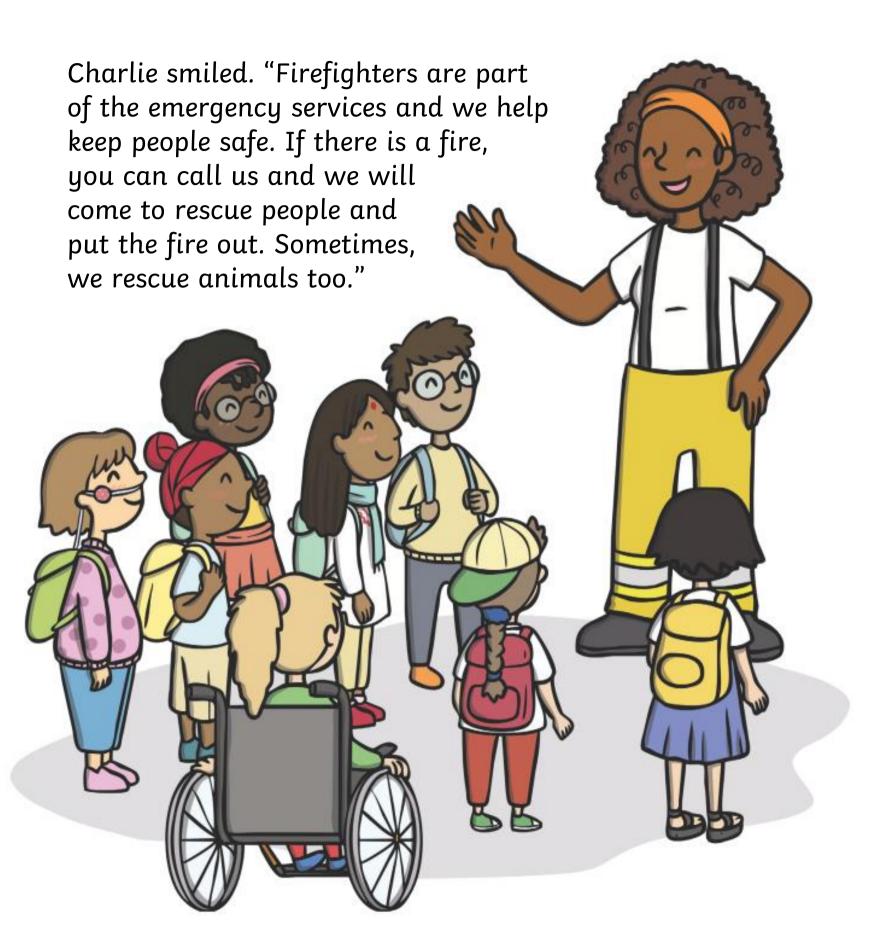




"You put out fires," said Grace.

"You help people in emergencies," said Ayesha.

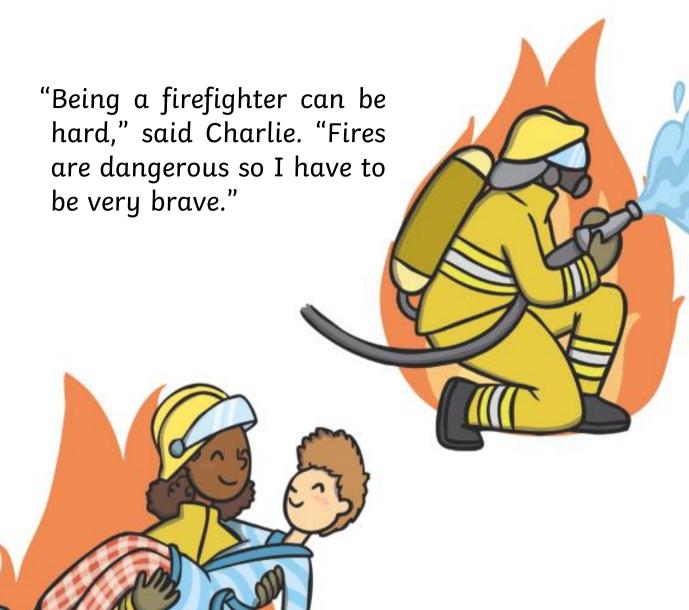
"You rescue kittens from trees!" said Kai.



"Is it hard?" asked Annie.

Charlie thought for a moment.





"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?" asked Charlie.

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



"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.



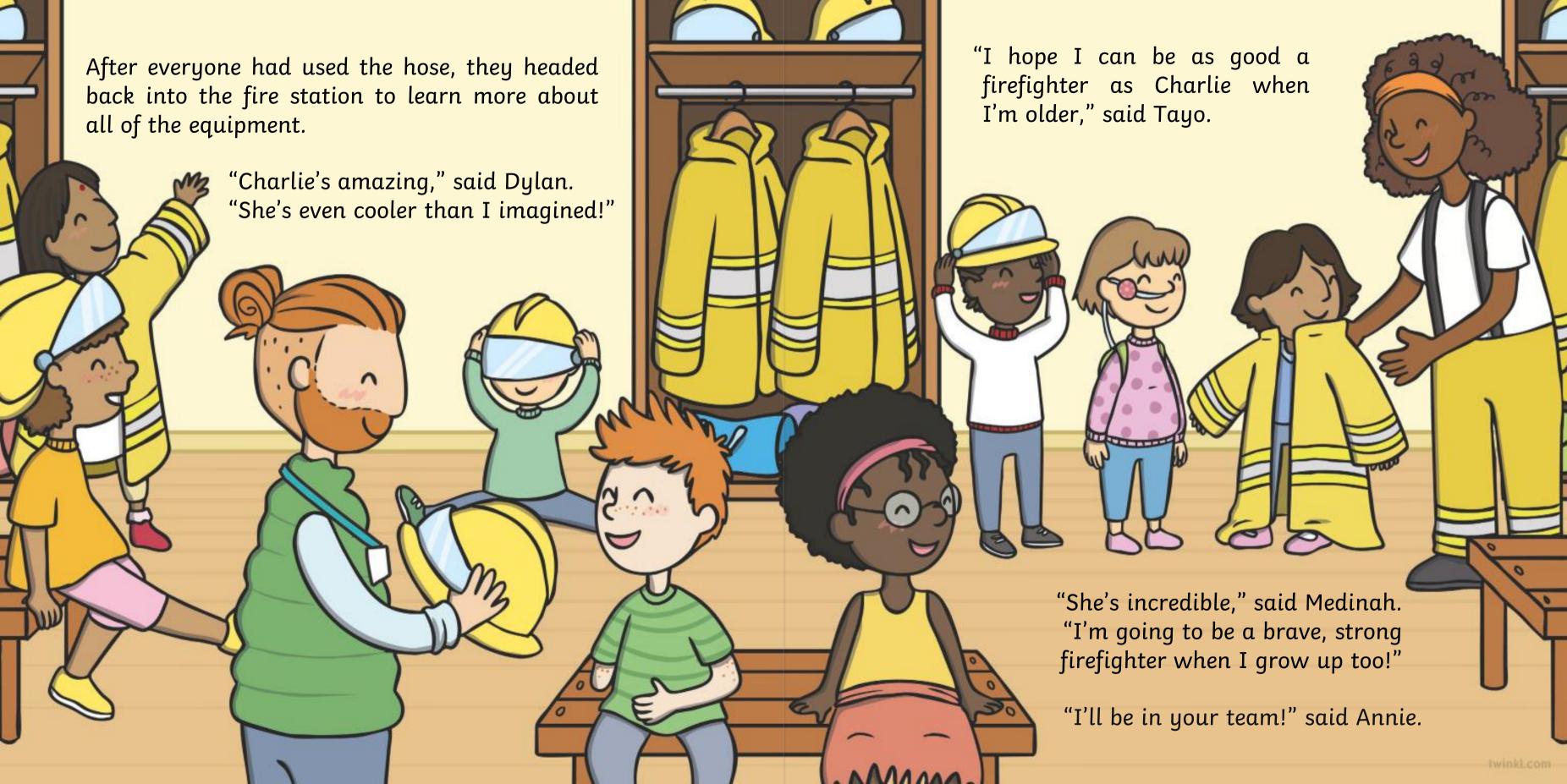
"Can I have a volunteer to use the hose?" asked Charlie.

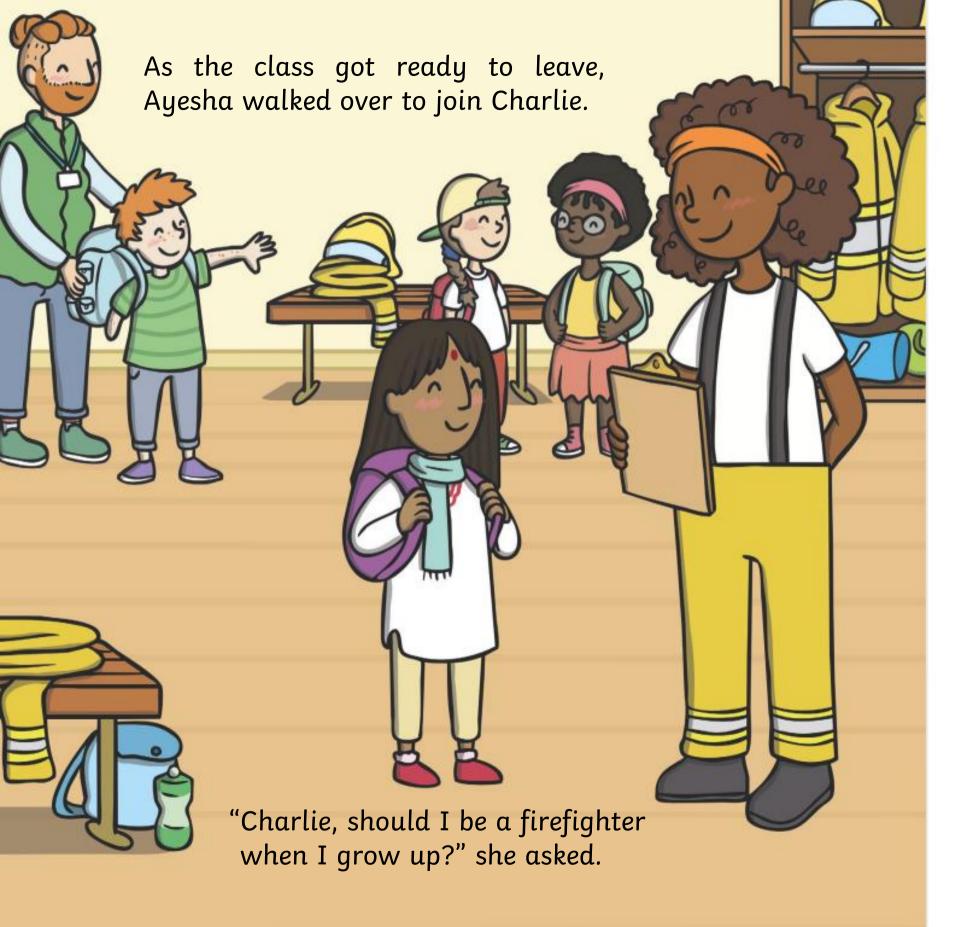
A sea of hands shot up and Charlie chose Amari first.



"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."









"You should be whatever you want to be," said Charlie. "The best thing you can be is yourself."





