



The Fire Station

Robert Munsch , Michael Martchenko (Illustrator)

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This story starts out with a familiar premise: Michael and Sheila visit a fire station. But then the Munsch flair for imaginative insight and humor take over. While the two kids are exploring a fire truck, an alarm goes off- and away go Michael and Sheila to the rescue! About the Classic Munsch series: Robert Munsch's award-winning books have become a staple on the bookshelves of families worldwide. His stories reflect the joys and challenges of everyday living, offering zany, yet utterly normal, experiences of family life. Munsch has sold over 40 million books in 20 countries and many languages, including French, Spanish, Arabic, and Chinese. Beginning with "Mud Puddle" in 1979, Munsch continued captivating children and adults with stories like "Thomas's Snowsuit," "David's Father," "I Have to Go!," and the classic "Love You Forever."

The Fire Station Details

Date : Published October 2nd 2012 by Annick Press (first published 1982)

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Author : Robert Munsch , Michael Martchenko (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review The Fire Station for online ebook

Nancy says

This book was found in the Tumbleweed section of the public library. It's a different way of telling the story of a fire station. A little boy and girl are near the Fire Station, and the little girl tells the boy they should go ride a fire engine. The fireman tells them they can't ride the fire engine, but he takes them inside and shows them around. When they are alone, they climb into the fire engine, and pretend they are riding in it. The alarm sounds, and they hide behind the seats. At the fire, they get covered with smoke, and the fire chief finds them, and takes them home. When the children get home the parents don't recognize them, because they are so dirty. When they are recognized, they are put in the bath tub for several days.

Marc Lucke says

This has all the classic elements of a Munsch caper: kids oblivious to consequence and authority, physics-defying cataclysms and hilarious and harmless repercussions for everyone.

The big, detailed drawings of the fire truck are an audience-pleaser, and the sheer reckless zeal of the protagonists makes for a fun read.

Edit 05/2016: It does bother me that Martchenko didn't include a single drawing of a policewoman or firewoman. He had more than one opportunity to do so, and it would have made a small but significant difference.

Amber Lynch says

Sheila talks Michael in to going to the firehouse. Sheila asks to see everything in the firehouse including the desire to drive a firetruck. The fireman says never! The alarm goes off and Sheila and Michael hide in the back of the firetruck and go on adventure. Are Sheila and Michael found and what happens if they are found?

Discuss the safety of visiting a firehouse and how should boys and girls behave? Discuss if the students would ever want to go to a call like they did and why?

Nancy Mosqueda says

Michael and Sheila are full of adventures. Fire-trucks, police stations, baths! What could possibly come next for these two adventurers? Sheila, our mischevious little girl is always leading little Michael into some new trouble. Our characters are full of energy and curiosity that seeps through the pages.

babyhippoface says

I read once how Robert Munsch comes up with his stories. He goes to a school and asks, "Who wants to be in a new story?" Then some kid will volunteer, and he'll make up a story about that kid. Sometimes the stories are good, and sometimes they are lousy. The good ones, he keeps telling and changing and telling and changing, and eventually, they wind up as a book after about 5 years of telling and changing.

Now, go read a Munsch book. *Totally explains everything, doesn't it?* It even, to an extent, explains the horrifying nature of *Love You Forever*, the handbook for stalker moms across the nation. It was supposed to be silly. It was supposed to be goofy. It wasn't supposed to really and truly be about a crazy mother who engages in breaking-and-entering to hold her adult son in his bedroom. Because *that* story is terrifying and would make an excellent horror movie. And yes, that's honestly the way I feel about that book. That woman gives me the CREEPS.

Anyway, this storytelling method seems to work quite well for Munsch (most of the time). The stories are basically one joke repeated several times, with maybe a zinger thrown in at the end. In *The Fire Station*, Sheila drags Michael into a fire station to explore, and he hides in the backseat of a fire truck when an alarm is called in. They get covered with icky, multicolored smoke, but then the firemen discover them and take them to their respective homes. Initially, their parents don't recognize them because they are so filthy, but then they recognize them and take them in and the kids have to live in the bathtub for 3-5 days before they're clean again. Then Sheila drags Michael to a police station, and here's where the skill of predicting comes into play.

Munsch-goofiness abounds. Much goofiness abounds. Whichever. They both work.

David says

The Fire Station by Robert N. Munsch, illustrated by Michael Martchenko, starts with the premise of a visit to the fire station, but Sheila says she wants to drive the fire truck. While exploring the fire truck an alarm goes off, and so do Sheila and Michael, straight to a fire!

This zany story by Robert Munsch is a winner with his signature eager character, astonished parents, and in this case, a surprised fire chief, with an ending suggesting more craziness to come. Michael Martchenko's wild illustrations perfectly match Munsch's exaggerated tale. This is another effective read-aloud. For ages 4 to 8, fireman themes, funny stories and fans of Robert N. Munsch & Michael Martchenko.

Kristin King says

My boys liked "that the boy and the girl were friends, and they went to the fire station to ask the fireman if they could check out the big fire trucks. And there was water and fire and they didn't get angry at each other. They got dirty, and her mom said 'you're too dirty to come in and play with my daughter.'" "And the boy stayed in the bath for 3 days" etc.

Pamela (slytherpuff) says

Boy Child wants to be a Firefighter. He wears his Fireman hat and Fireman boots everywhere.
He would wear his Fireman coat if I didn't have it hidden during the summer.
He thinks that Fireman Sam is one of the greatest shows ever.*

So I was totally excited when I was approved for this galley!

It's hard to read kids' books on an iPad, but we powered through.
Over and over.
And over and over.
And over.

Boy Child loves it. Girl child loves it. The Husband and I don't hate it.
We have a winner!

I purchased one copy for our collection and another as a birthday gift for a friend's son. A great find!

*It is NOT a good show. I want to poke out my eyes and cut off my ears when it's on.
I received a copy of this book via NetGalley in exchange for my honest review.

Miss Pippi the Librarian says

Sheila and Michael went out one day to learn about their neighborhood fire station. They didn't expect to go on a wild adventure!

A Munsch classic, The Fire Station, is trimmed down to a shorter board book version. Munsch followers will rejoice at the re-written, and re-formatted book. Readers interested in fire station books may not enjoy this title as much as the Munschers. The story is fantastical, so it is better suited to story time settings and not learning sessions about fire stations, firemen, or community helpers.

Reviewed from a NetGalley copy. Thank you, Annick Press!

Lynn Davidson says

An adventurous little girl encourage her friend to go to the fire station with her where they accidentally end up going to a fire in a large fire truck.

Carol says

This is a board book version of a classic Munsch book. Michael and Sheila are walking down the street when

they decide to visit the fire department. As they are exploring the engine a call comes in and they go along for the ride to the fire. The kids become covered in colored smoke so when they arrive home their parents don't even recognize them until they bathe. The next day the mischievous duo are again strolling down the road when Sheila decides it would be a great idea to check out a police car! I wonder what kind of chaos that will lead to? Munsch's use of onomatopoeia make his books a delight to read aloud.

Destiny says

title: the fire station

author: Robert Munsch and Michael Martchenko

characters: Michael, Sheila, Firemen, Michael's mother, Sheila's father,

setting: Fire Station down the street

plot: Michael and Sheila visited the fire station and while they were looking into the fire truck the firemen took them away unknowingly going to there emergency. They were taken home after the fire chief discovered them near the fire. When they arrived home their parents made the kids take a long shower.

theme: The Firemen are brave and work hard to help others in trouble

why did you enjoy the book ?

things I learned from this reading: Being a fireman is a very serious job. Fireman are brave, and parents should know where their kids are at. Shows how children's innocence and curiosity leads to mischievous fun and learning.

Matt says

Michael and Sheila go on quite the adventure in this Robert Munsch classic. After tasking a tour of the fire station, Michael and Sheila end up trapped on the enormous firetruck during a call. A massive blaze and yucky-coloured smoke fill the air, covering both children in various spots. When the fire chief notices them, he is alarmed and rushes them off the premises. Upon arriving at home, Michael and Sheila each receive a rude awakening at the door, which involves soap and lots of water. A few days later, when they come across the police station... Neo laughed at this book, calling it one of his favourite Munsch tales. He hopes to ride on a fire truck at full speed, but will stay away from the fire and smoke.

Veeda says

So funny and engaging!

Jennifer says

I think it was a cute book of two inquisitive kids who tend to get themselves in trouble. I do think it was a little repetitive that they both got home and their parents didn't recognize them and they took baths. I did love the illustrations of them all different colors and of them taking baths with the bubbles all around the room.

