



**Sřední průmyslová škola Hranice**

**Mgr. Radka Vorlová**

**08\_1<sup>st</sup> Fire Brigades**

**CZ.1.07/1.5.00/34.0608**

# Výukový materiál

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EVROPSKÁ UNIE



MINISTERSTVO ŠKOLSTVÍ,  
MLÁDEŽE A TĚLOVÝCHOVY



OP Vzdělávání  
pro konkurenceschopnost

INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

# 1<sup>st</sup> FIRE BRIGADES

**Předmět:** Anglický jazyk

**Ročník:** Požární ochrana – 2. ročník

**Jméno autora:** Mgr. Radka Vorlová

**Škola:** SPŠ Hranice



**Anotace:** Speaking and reading activities connected to the topic 1<sup>st</sup> fire brigades.

**Klíčová slova:** fire brigades, 1<sup>st</sup> fire brigade, firefighters, beginning of firefighting, firefighting, early firefighting

*Autorem materiálu a všech jeho částí, není-li uvedeno jinak, je Mgr. Radka Vorlová*

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**PAIRWORK: Try to answer or guess the answers to the following questions:**

1. When and where was the first organised fire fighting force (fire brigade) in Europe?
2. When did the first fire brigade appear in London?
3. What was the connection between fire brigades and insurance companies?
  - a) There was no connection between them.
  - b) Fire brigades were formed and paid by insurance companies.
  - c) Insurance companies were formed and paid by fire brigades.
4. Did the fire brigades in the 17<sup>th</sup> century extinguish all the burning houses?
5. Who was James Braindwood?
6. Where did the Volunteer Fire Brigades and Town Fire Brigades operate in England?

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# THE FIRST FIRE BRIGADES

## ANCIENT ROME

At first, a group of slaves were used as fire fighters in ancient Rome. There were only about 600 **slaves** around 23 BC. These slaves were called the Familia Publica and were placed around the **gates** of the city. Their task was to alarm the **citizens in case of fire**. But they were slow and didn't want to risk when fighting the fires.

After the great and disastrous fire in Rome around 6 AD, the first fire brigade (the first organized fire fighting force) was formed by Marcus Licinius Crassus. This fire brigade was called Vigiles and they **protected** Rome for about next 500 years. They usually used buckets, made fire breaks with the use of fire hooks and used water pumps.

## ENGLAND

After the fall of Rome, there was no organized fire fighting **force** for more than 1000 years in Europe. After the Great Fire of London in 1666, the first fire insurance brigades **appeared** in London. The fire brigades were formed and paid by **insurance** companies. These insurance company fire fighters protected properties of people who paid the insurance. These fire fighters fought fires only at buildings which were insured.

People, who wanted to **insure** their houses and properties, paid a **fee** to an insurance company. The clients' buildings were identified by **fire marks** (signs). When the house started burning, the fire brigades came and looked for the fire mark (the right one). If they didn't see their fire mark on the building, they went away and **leave it to burn**. The buildings were often left to burn until the right fire fighting company came to the place.

Later in 1833 fire insurance brigades joined together and formed the London Fire Engine Establishment (LFEE). LFEE **provided** more effective fire service because it was a force of professional firemen. James Braindwood became the first Fire **Chief** of LFEE for 28 years. Braindwood became very popular because he worked hard and **researched** into fire-fighting and prevention. He also introduced a uniform – gray jacket and trousers, knee high boots and black leather helmet.

LFEE put out the fires but didn't help people to **escape**. In 1828 the Royal Society for the Protection of Life from Fire (RSPLF) was formed. Its task was to provide escape ladders and help people to escape from burning buildings. The ladders were on the street corners at night and in the churchyards during the day.

In 1861, LFEE fought the fire of warehouse in Tooley Street in London. The warehouse was full of **hemp and jute**. Unfortunately, **fire resistant doors** were left open (so that the workmen could leave) and the fire spread quickly to the other buildings in the surrounding. The fire took for 14 days and it was the worst fire in London after the Great Fire of London. James Braindwood died in this warehouse fire, a wall collapsed to Braindwood.

Outside London Volunteer Fire Brigades or Town Fire Brigades operated.

⇒ **Are these statements True or False?**

- A After 1666, the fire fighters worked for insurance companies.
- B The fire insurance brigades put out all the fires they came to.
- C When the fire fighters saw the fire mark on the building, they leave it to burn.
- D LFEE extinguished the fires and helped people escape from the fire.
- E The fire of warehouse in 1861 lasted fortnight.



## THE FIRST FIRE BRIGADES (teacher's worksheet)

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|---|---|
| <b>A</b> After 1666, the fire fighters worked for insurance companies.                    | T |
| <b>B</b> The fire insurance brigades put out all the fires they came to.                  | F |
| <b>C</b> When the fire fighters saw the fire mark on the building, they leave it to burn. | F |
| <b>D</b> LFEE extinguished the fires and helped people escape from the fire.              | F |
| <b>E</b> The fire of warehouse in 1861 lasted fortnight.                                  | T |



## **VOCABULARY:**

Slave – otrok

Gate – brána

Citizen – občan, obyvatel města

In case of fire – v případě ohně

Protect – chránit

Force – síla / sbor, jednotka

Appear – objevit se

Insurance – pojištění, pojistné

Insure – pojistit (se)

Fee – poplatek

Fire mark

Leave sth to burn – nechat shořet

Provide – poskytnout

Chief – šéf, náčelník

Research (v.) – výzkum / zkoumat

Escape (v./adj.) – utéct, uniknout

Hemp and jute – konopí a juta

Fire resistant door – ohnivzdorné (ohnidolné) dveře

BC – before Christ

AD – anno domini = léta páně

# Prostudované zdroje:

## Zdroje použité při tvorbě textu:

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