A Response to 9-1-1
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A First Responder is someone who immediately tries to help with some incident that occurs. This could be a response to someone who is hurt or injured, a natural disaster (like a fire, flood or tornado), or maybe your pet needs help.

The response might be at your house or in your neighborhood or community. When called, the First Responder is trained to come right away. A quick response

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is the surest way that the incident can be resolved in the shortest amount of time and with the least amount of damage to individuals and to property.

A First Responder is responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, evidence, and the environment. They are trained in many areas like emergency management, public health, clinical care, public works, and in operating equipment.

Together, they work to provide support services at the “onset” of an incident. “Onset” means at the early stages. They work to help in all response areas of prevention, response, and recovery:

♦ **Prevention** is trying to stop more things happening in the future as a result of this incident.

♦ **Response** means what is done in the incident and how you react to those individuals in the incident.
♦ **Recovery** means what is done to restore or rebuild (whatever it is) back to what it was like prior to the incident.

Dialing 9-1-1 is one way you can ask for help from First Responders. You should know when it is appropriate to call this emergency help number. Dialing 9-1-1 in cases that are not emergencies should be prevented. It wastes people’s time and takes away resources that are needed from other emergency situations. Your parents and teachers can talk to you about dialing 9-1-1.

We salute those people who are First Responders and we thank them for their quick responses to helping out in situations when needed. We thank them for their special technical skills and personal skills of kindness and caring they bring with them on every response job.
Practice

Language Work

A. Fill in the blank.

incident ___________________________________

surest _____________________________________

onset _____________________________________

response ___________________________________

B. Use each word in a sentence. Underline the word used.

damage _________________________________________

prior _________________________________________

situation _______________________________________

immediately ___________________________________
C. Matching. Match each vocabulary word with the correct definition.

1. First Responders  a) help or assistance provided by groups of people or service agencies
2. support services  b) mechanical skills
3. technical skills  c) skills to make a person feel cared for and protected
4. personal skills  d) people trained to help in emergency

D. Phonics work. The letter “c” can sound like a soft “c” or a hard “c”. The soft “c” sounds like an “s” and the hard “c” sounds like a “k”. In the word “incident”, the letter “c” is a soft “c” sound. Write one other word that is spelled with the letter “c” and has a soft “c” sound.

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E. Puzzle. The vowel “e” is in these scrambled words from the text. Unscramble each of the words. The first letter in each word and the letter “e” are done for you.

1. m m e d i t e l a y i  i ___ e _______ e ___
2. n c i i d n e t    i ____ ___ e __
3. s p e r o n e s   r e _______ e
gn
4. r s u s e t    s ___ e __
5. m a d g a e    d ___ ___ e
6. s n o e t      o ___ e __
7. r s e p n s o d r e   r e _______ e ___
Multiple-Choice Questions (Put an X in front of the correct answer.)

1. Why are first responders trained to come right away?
   □ a. It wastes time and causes the least amount of damage.
   □ b. It saves time and causes the least amount of damage.
   □ c. It saves time and causes the most amount of damage.
   □ d. None of these.

2. What are the three areas the first responders are trained in?
   □ a. prevention, response, and hospitalization
   □ b. prevention, response, and recovery
   □ c. response, recovery, and hospitalization
   □ d. recovery, hospitalization, and the Red Cross

Definitions (Write the meaning of each word as it is used in the text.)

1. immediate

2. incident

3. response

Extended Response (Answer in complete sentences.)

1. Why is it important to train First Responders?

____________________________________________________________________________________
2. Let’s pretend there was an emergency and your parents or an adult was not present. When is it appropriate to call for help? What should you do?

3. Why should we value the service of First Responders?
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Matching
1(d); 2(a); 3(b); 4(c)

Puzzle
immediately, incident, response, surest, damage, onset, responders, technical, personal

Multiple-Choice Questions
1. b
2. b

Extended Response (Accept reasonable answers.)
1. First Responders need to be trained so they respond appropriately in time of need.
2. If you need help in an emergency, you can call 911. If this is not an emergency or life-threatening situation, you should not use 911.
3. First Responders are valuable to our community because they contribute to helping others in time of need.