



# Flashing Fire Engines; Terrific Trains

Books Reviewed:

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Reviewer:

[Margaret Mallett](#) [4]

New to Choice:

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

3

Under fives will like these two exhilarating journeys. **Flashing Fire Engines** takes us along with the crew to answer a fire alarm. We are introduced to all the equipment - helmets, fireproof trousers and masks - and the fire fighting and rescue procedures are clearly explained in pictures and text. Three lively animals in the roles of the guard, help energise the story of a train journey in **Terrific Trains**. The sounds the train makes, 'chuff-chuff' and 'whoosh!', are written in distinctive print at the top of the pictures. Track, signals and the parts of a train are carefully drawn and explained in the text. Children will be able to link their own experience of seeing trains or travelling on them to what they find here. We accompany the train as it goes over a river on a 'big strong bridge', through a tunnel where 'your ears go pop!' and through a level crossing where 'the traffic has to wait'. In this short book the authors manage to give reasons for things - when too many trains share the same track 'the signals and the points have to hold some back'. They also indicate there are different kinds of train - diesel and steam for instance - and trains have different functions - to carry passengers or freight.

Both books have large, bright illustrations, simple verse with a driving rhythm and picture dictionaries at the end. The animal characters, always on the move, will appeal and the colour, pace and excitement in these books will bring about a lot of talk and enjoyment.

Running Order:

34

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