

POLICEMAN WALT LEARNS HIS JOB

A Motion Picture Study Guide



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Presents an Argus Film Production

FILM FACTS:	grade level:	primary, middle elementary
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SYNOPSIS: Policeman Walt's training begins the day the Chief of Police swears him in as a policeman. He studies his lessons in class, learns how to protect himself and others, is taught what a detective does to solve crimes. When Policeman Walt goes on patrol by himself and takes care of an accident, he knows that he has passed his first test as a good police officer.

EDITED NARRATION:

A NEW POLICEMAN: This is an important day for me. The Chief of Police is swearing me in as a new policeman—Officer Walt Chambers. To become an officer I passed many police tests, and I had to have good school grades. My job will be to see that people obey our laws.

LEARNING DUTIES: Before I can help people obey the law, I must learn the law myself. Laws are rules that protect us and the things we own. New police officers study some of their lessons in a classroom. Sergeant Perkins shows us what to do when an accident happens. We learn to protect ourselves and the people in our city.

SOLVING CRIMES: Every new police officer must learn to help solve crimes. Someone stole some cameras like these from a store. Lt. Ward, a detective, shows me how he goes about trying to find a burglar. When the man broke into the store, he left an important clue on the window—his fingerprints. Lt. Ward must try to find the person whose fingerprints are the same as those on the window. The police department keeps a file of the fingerprints of many criminals. Lt. Ward has an idea who the criminal is. He takes out the fingerprint card of the man he suspects. The fingerprint from the window and the fingerprint from the files are exactly alike. The man will be brought in for questioning.

PATROLING STREETS: Every morning Sergeant Macy tells us certain things to watch for as we patrol our city. He tells some officers to help with the Sunday parade. We all write down the license number of a stolen car. My job today is to go with Officer Hart in a patrol car. He will help me learn my duties.

We keep watch in the neighborhood for anything that seems wrong. Oh oh—I wonder why that store window is open. On Sunday, the window should be closed. We'd better investigate.



Policemen must use teamwork. I stand by to help Officer Hart if he should need me. But everything is all right; someone forgot to close the window. I radio the station what we have done and where we are. At the police station, the dispatcher receives my message. The dispatcher receives and sends all police messages. He must know the location of every police officer at all times.

ACCIDENT WORK: After several months, my training as a rookie is finished. Today is the day I go on my first patrol duty by myself. This is my first call. I'll have to remember everything I have learned. An automobile has damaged a fire hydrant. First, I make certain that the driver isn't injured. He is all right. But, the wet street is slippery and dangerous. I must radio for help.

Water is pouring onto the street, and I must guide traffic safely on its way. Here comes the help I sent for: the motorcycle officer, the fire engine, and the tow truck. We all work together as a team. Officer Roberts takes care of the traffic. I direct the tow truck. The fireman turns off the water. Now the tow truck can haul the car away. And the driver gives me the information on how the accident happened.

The accident is taken care of, and I feel that I have passed my first test as a policeman.

A POLICEMAN'S DAY OFF: The next day, my day off, I tell my family about the accident: how the water sprayed all over and how we stopped it. My wife and children are happy that I am a good police officer.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why do we need police officers? Why must they be on duty at all times?
2. Why do police officers go on patrol?
3. Why do patrol cars use radios?
4. Why is the dispatcher important?
5. What are some of the things a police officer does when there is an accident?
6. What is the main job of a detective? Why does he try to get the fingerprints of a criminal?
7. In what ways do police officers use teamwork?
8. Have you ever been helped by a police officer? Tell about it.

WORDS TO LEARN

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|----------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1. investigate | 7. patrol car | 13. laws |
| 2. solve | 8. crime | 14. clue |
| 3. detective | 9. suspect | 15. rookie |
| 4. dispatcher | 10. files | 16. expert |
| 5. tow truck | 11. witnesses | 17. burglar |
| 6. hydrant | 12. prowler | 18. fingerprints |

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