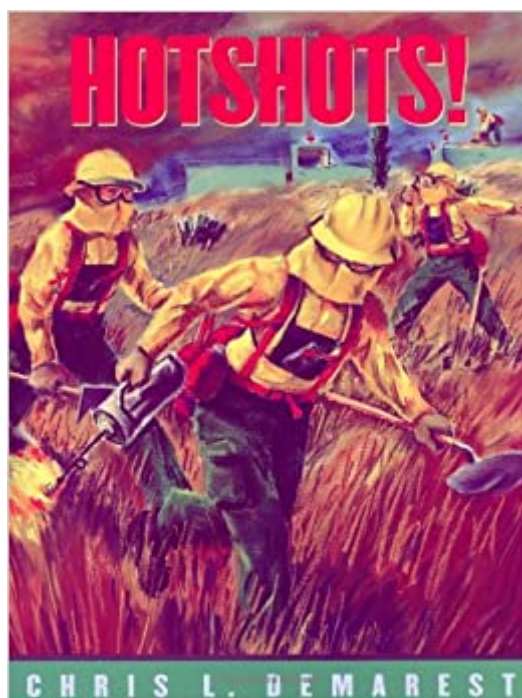


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# Hotshots!



## Synopsis

Sparks from a train ignite a field baked for days. Then winds whip it into a fast-running blaze. With fire now spreading out of control, the hotshots are called. They're ready to roll. What are hotshots? They are an elite ground fire-fighting corps of men and women highly trained to understand the scientific nature of fire in order to go deep into the heart of a wildfire, beyond the reach of hose lines, to limit the destruction of land and wildlife. As more homes are being built into the natural landscape, the role of the hotshot in fighting fire has become increasingly important. With stunning pictures and an action-packed text, fine artist and volunteer firefighter Chris L. Demarest here captures the spirit of the dedicated hotshots and the real-life drama of the dangerous work they must do every day.

## Book Information

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Hardcover: 48 pages

Publisher: Margaret K. McElderry; 1 edition (May 1, 2003)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 0.4 x 12.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.0 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,081,151 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #110 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Health > Safety #1022 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Jobs & Careers #1194 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Environment

## Customer Reviews

PreSchool-Grade 1-An outstanding informational source that is highly appealing in its presentation. The brief rhyming text, similar to that in Demarest's *Firefighters A to Z* (2000) and *Smokejumpers One to Ten* (2002, both McElderry), tells the story of the "hotshots" called to put out a brushfire that is threatening to destroy a mountainside neighborhood. The short, uncomplicated text belies the author's knowledge of his subject. Despite an occasional forced rhyme, each word has been carefully chosen. While the text is simple enough for young listeners, it includes keywords that impart factual material. An author's note includes additional information and explanations of

terminology. Borderless, double-page pastel illustrations effectively show the progression of events, from the accidental ignition of dried grass and deployment of brush rigs and trucks until moments after the fire has been extinguished. The vivid color and smudgy look of the pastel crayon artwork perfectly re-create the wildly raging fire and the hotshots. Every library will want to have this book on hand. Susan Scheps, Shaker Heights Public Library, OH Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

K-Gr. 2. Similar in subject and format to Demarest's *Firefighters A to Z* (2000) and *Smoke Jumpers One to Ten* (2002), this large-format book features hotshots, "the elite ground fire-fighting corps with permanent stations dotted throughout the western United States." Sparks from a passing train ignite a fire that rages out of control, burning homes as well as brush-covered countryside. The hotshots respond quickly, racing up a mountain, setting a "backburn," and protecting themselves with heat-resistant coverings when the blaze overtakes them. After their backburn stops the fire, they reload their tools on the truck, ready for the next call. The rhythm of the short, rhyming text sounds a bit clunky, and some terminology may confuse the uninitiated. But the story builds to a terrific climax, and the dramatic, intensely colored pastel illustrations are riveting. In the appended note, Demarest describes the process of battling wildfires, explains the fire-fighting terms used in the book, and lists books, videos, and Web sites for further information. Sure to enthrall children with an interest in fire fighting. Carolyn Phelan Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Although I agree with the criticism about the deployment of fire shelters I am sad this book went out of print. My husband and 3 of my children are or were hotshots for the Forest Service. There is no other book like it! Every children's book about firefighters shows structure fires and red trucks. At least this is something their children can relate to in the pictures. I wish it had simply been improved instead of out of print. I buy every used copy I can both for the kids I know and as amusement for the hotshots themselves. Everyone enjoys it.

The book is great and all for kids who will never know anyone who actually fights fires. In the book there is some pretty intense stuff that is very likely to scare the poo out of any kid who cares about anyone out on fire. It shows the hotshots deploying their fire shelters which should never happen. Its like being the child of a professional driver and showing a car crash.

Written and illustrated by Chris L. Demarest, Hotshots! is a simple and engaging picturebook for beginning readers about "hotshots" - elite firefighters who are trained to brave wildfires and dig trenches to limit the destruction of land and wildlife. Unforgettable and dramatic full-color illustrations fill the pages of this simple yet memorable story about those amazing men and women who risk their lives to protect land, animals, and people from the ravages of forest fires.

As a "hot shot" family I was excited to find the book to read to our daughter about her daddy when he's gone fighting fire. This book is a joke. Not only is it not based on fact. It actually has firefighters deploying fire shelter as though it is an everyday occurrence. The writer should be ashamed of this book. Horrible verse, horrible story! Don't waste your money!

This one describes those elite crews we hear about all summer battling wildland fires. Simple, yet illustrative text that complements the bold, large as life illustrations. Accurately depicts the work of the Hotshots. If your kids love firefighters as mine do they will love this book.

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Hotshots! The Fire Line: The Story of the Granite Mountain Hotshots

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