

water safety for ages 5-14

DROWNING IS THE SECOND LEADING CAUSE
OF UNINTENTIONAL INJURY-RELATED
DEATH IN THIS AGE GROUP.



Dangers outside of the home

As school-aged kids get older, they are more likely to drown in natural water, such as a pond or lake.



Comparing the numbers

Among those 1-14, drowning is the second-leading cause of unintentional injury-related death behind motor vehicle crashes.



Yearly drowning fatalities

There are more than 200 drowning deaths each year among children ages 5-14.



Importance of Improving Water Competency

59% of children between the ages 5-14 who drowned reportedly knew how to swim.

THESE STATISTICS REINFORCE THE IMPORTANCE OF WATER COMPETENCY INCLUDING BASIC SWIM SKILLS, BARRIERS, AND PARENTAL SUPERVISION TO PREVENT TRAGIC INCIDENTS AND ENSURE THE WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN IN ALL AQUATIC ENVIRONMENTS.

Water Safety tips

- Enroll children in high-quality swim lessons that include water safety skills, learning how to float and tread water.
- Take classes to learn first aid and CPR with rescue breaths.
- Consider door alarms or personal alarms for younger children to alert pool access during non-swim times.
- Actively supervise children during swim times. Water Watchers and lifeguards should be close, constant, and capable.
- Have children wear brightly colored swimsuits.
- Use U.S. Coast Guard-approved flotation devices when in and around natural water or while boating.
- Educate children on the importance of staying out of the pool during non-swim times.
- For younger children, remove toys or tripping hazards in and around the pool/spa area.
- For younger children, remove any climbable objects near the pool gates and fences.