

# Have a **WATER SAFE** summer

Water should be a safe and enjoyable environment for children, but sadly drowning remains one of the leading causes of preventable death in young children.

Curious toddlers can be drawn to water as they explore the world around them. Children most commonly drown when they were not expected to be around water but found their way there alone while adults were distracted.

By taking simple steps you can keep your child safe and set them up for a lifetime of enjoying the water.



## SUPERVISE

Always keep watch of your child around water

- When you're in or around water with your child, supervision should be 'eyes on' and 'hands on' so you can react immediately if something goes wrong.
- Remain vigilant any time your child has access to water and don't let distractions take your attention away.
- Ensure you know which adult is responsible for watching kids, especially at busy family gatherings.



## RESTRICT

Restrict your child's access to water at all times

- Barriers around water can slow kids down and give you more time to respond if you lose sight of them.
- Regularly check your pool fence. Never leave the gate propped open and ensure it's self-closing and self-latching.
- Restrict access to other water by emptying paddling pools, baths and buckets immediately after use.



## TEACH

Teach your child water safety skills

- Enrol in water familiarisation classes to build confidence and introduce children to basic water safety and survival skills.
- Set rules and boundaries for your child around water and use these consistently.
- Remember that even a child who can swim can still drown, so there is no substitute for supervision.



## RESPOND

Learn CPR and call Triple Zero (000) in an emergency

- Drowning can happen quickly and quietly, so if your child is ever missing check water locations first.
- If your child has drowned, call Triple Zero (000) and immediately commence CPR.
- Complete a CPR course and refresh your skills regularly. Being prepared could save your child's life in an emergency.

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