

Water Safety Plan for Kids Who Wander

Drowning causes most deaths after a child wanders. Work through each step together, and tick it off when it's done.

1 Map every water hazard within 10 minutes of home

Pools, ponds, creeks, retention basins, drainage ditches, fountains. Note where each one is and who to contact. Our free [Map Your Water Hazards](#) worksheet helps.

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2 Meet the pool owners

Introduce your child to neighbors with pools. Ask them to keep gates locked, and ask whether they have **four-sided fencing** and a **gate or pool alarm**.

WHO WE'VE SPOKEN TO _____

3 Enroll in adapted swim lessons

Ask local pools and YMCAs about **one-on-one or adapted lessons** for children with special needs. In Canada, ask about Lifesaving Society programs. Make the last lesson in clothes and shoes.

NEAREST PROGRAM _____

4 Install pool and door alarms

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Door and window alarms

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Gate latch alarm

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Surface wave or floating pool alarm

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Wearable or wristband alarm

5 Brief your first responders

READ THIS TO 911 AND LOCAL RESPONDERS

“My child has _____, is drawn to water, and may not respond to their name. Please check water first.”

If your child is missing, call 911 and check the nearest water at the same time. Alone? Call on speaker as you go. (911 works in the US and Canada.)