

Water Safety Plan for Kids Who Wander

Drowning is the most common fatal outcome when a child wanders. Work through each step together and fill it in as you go.

1 Map every water hazard within 10 minutes of home

Pools, ponds, retention basins, drainage ditches, fountains. Note the location and who to contact.

2 Meet the pool owners

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

3 Enrol in adapted swim lessons

Programs that teach swimming to children with autism at their own pace. Search for adapted or special-needs swim lessons in your area.

4 Install pool and door alarms

Tick what you have fitted, and note what is still to do.

Door and window alarms

Gate latch alarm

Surface wave alarm

Wearable alarm

5. BRIEF YOUR RESPONDERS, READ THIS TO THEM

"My child has , is attracted to water, and may not respond to their name. Check water first."

LOCAL EMERGENCY NUMBER

The number you would dial, and the one to give any sitter.