

The Facts about Kids and the Danger of Drowning

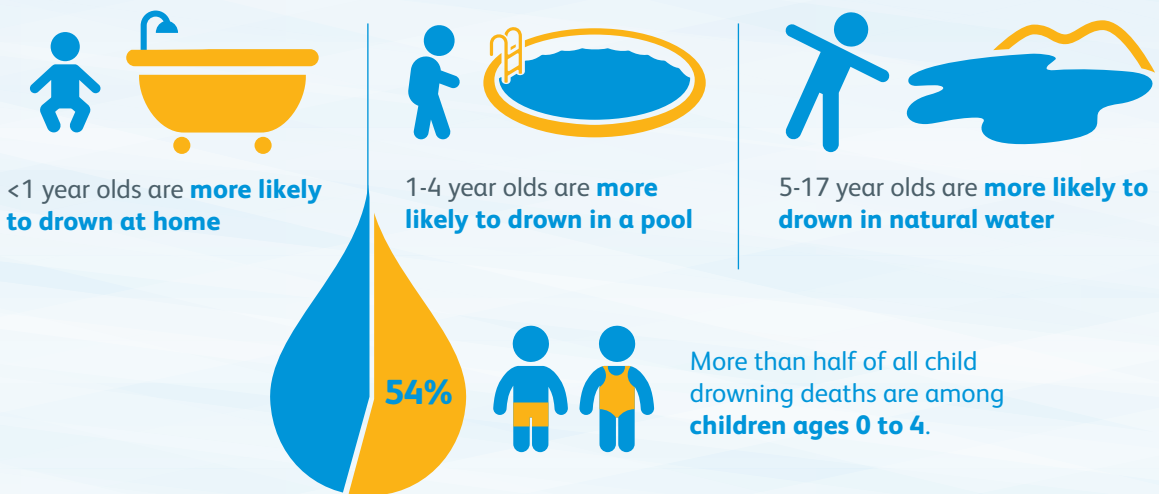
THE PROBLEM

Almost 800 children drown in the U.S. every year.



Two thirds of these deaths occur during May – August.

Drowning Risk Varies by Age



PARENTS' MISCONCEPTIONS

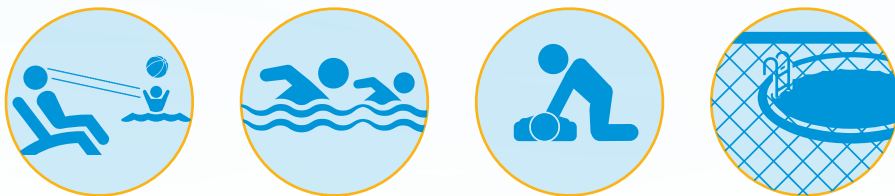
	<p>MISCONCEPTION 1 Nearly half of parents surveyed think that if a child was drowning nearby, they would hear it.</p>	<p>Reality Drowning is silent. There can be very little splashing, waving or screaming.</p>
	<p>MISCONCEPTION 2 1 out of 3 parents have left a child alone in a pool for two or more minutes.</p>	<p>Reality Drowning is quick. Once a child begins to struggle, you may have less than a minute to react.</p>
	<p>MISCONCEPTION 3 More than half of parents surveyed think that when present, a lifeguard is the primary person responsible for their child's supervision at the pool.</p>	<p>Reality Watching your child in the water is your responsibility. A lifeguard's job is to enforce rules, scan, rescue and resuscitate.</p>
	<p>MISCONCEPTION 4 60 percent of parents surveyed would not worry as much about drowning if their child has had swim lessons.</p>	<p>Reality Swim lessons are essential, but skill level varies. A review of children who drowned in a pool revealed that 47 percent of 10 – 17 year olds reportedly knew how to swim.</p>

WATER SURVIVAL SKILLS

5 Survival Skills That Could Save Your Life in the Water

- 1 Step or jump into water over your head and return to the surface.
- 2 Float or tread water for one minute.
- 3 Turn around in a full circle and find an exit from the water.
- 4 Swim 25 yards to the exit.
- 5 Exit from the water. If in a pool, be able to exit without using the ladder.

WATER SAFETY TIPS



- Watch your kids when they are in and around water, without distraction.
- Teach children to swim and the 5 Water Survival Skills.
- Learn CPR and basic rescue skills.
- Make sure pools have four-sided fencing at least 4 feet high.