
WATER SAFETY

Learning Objectives

After completing this station, participants should be able to:

1. Understand the dangers associated with playing near bodies of water including agricultural ponds, lagoons, and irrigation ditches.
2. Describe the personal floatation devices (PFDs) that could save their lives in the water.
3. Understand “Reach, Throw, and Wade” and how not to risk their own lives when helping a drowning victim.
4. Understand the use of and be able to assist with making a heaving jug and a safety post. (Optional)

Safety Requirements

1. All water activities will need to be simulated to avoid having participants or adults entering the water.
2. No in or on the water activity by participants or adults, this includes canoeing or swimming.
3. If the participants are allowed in a boat on a trailer as part of the safety station, make sure the boat is secured to the trailer.

Age-Appropriateness

This lesson is appropriate for participants of all ages. However, the depth of content and the discussion needs to be tailored to the level of understanding of the group. Refer to the “Childhood Growth and Development” located in the Teaching Kids section of the manual.

Suggested Instructors

If you plan to teach boating or swimming safety, use an instructor from the groups listed below. Give them the material in this section and ask them to cover pertinent agriculture-related water hazards. Certified Red Cross swimming instructor, Department of Natural Resources education officer, Parks and Recreation Department staff, boating organization representative.