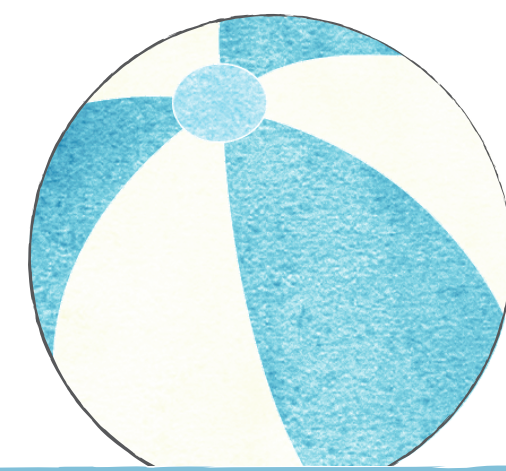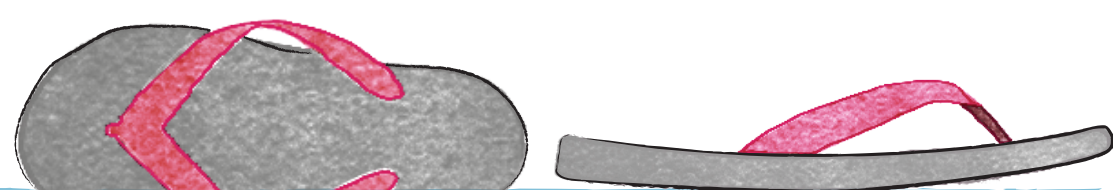# Keep Kids Safe from Drowning

Drowning happens when you least expect it.

In Florida, drowning is one of the leading causes of preventable death in children 1–4 years of age. To reduce the risk of drowning, use multiple **layers of protection** and restrict unsupervised access to water sources such as pools, hot tubs, canals, ponds, ditches, bathtubs, toilets and more.

Layers of Protection

Supervise 👁

Proper supervision is the most effective drowning prevention.

- Know your surroundings and possible drowning risks to your child at home and when traveling.
- Ensure young children are always supervised by a trusted caregiver.
- Assign a Water Watcher and use touch-supervision.
- Never leave a child alone near water, even for a second.

Barriers & Alarms

Use barriers to water access.

- Install and maintain 4-foot pool fencing and self-closing, self-latching gates and doors.
- Secure and lock all doors, windows and pet doors.
- Install door chimes or alarms.
- Routinely check for needed repairs to fencing, gates and barriers.

Swim Safety

- Seconds count! CPR training saves lives.
- Water survival skills training and swim lessons can help reduce drowning risk for children between the ages 1–4.
- By their 4th birthday, most children are ready for swim lessons.
- Swim lessons are not a replacement for supervision.
- Make a family drowning prevention plan and ensure all family members know how to swim.

Did You Know?

- While most child drowning incidents occur in a pool, nearly 70% of those children were not expected to be in the pool at that time.
- Distracted caregivers are a primary factor in child drowning incidents.
- Most drowning happens without a sound.
- Drowning incidents are preventable.

Englewood Fire Department

To learn more, visit:
WaterSmartFL.com

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WATER SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

Florida HEALTH