It Can Happen to You
• Many parents who lost a child to drowning never thought their child was at risk

Don’t Pass the Buck
• Take ownership of your child’s safety
• Know who is watching your children
• Do not put the responsibility on siblings or older children to supervise your children
• Do not think a lifeguard will watch your children like you do; a lifeguard has to watch every swimmer. You can give your child constant, close supervision.

Be Vigilant About Doors
• Create a routine for everyone in the house, even visitors to shut and lock doors; check them frequently

Do Not Multitask
• Supervising a toddler means your eyes are on them and they have your full attention
• Pool time is quality time with your child or children, not a time to text or return phone calls

Have an Emergency Response Plan in Advance
• Plan what steps to take practice them, remove the child from the water, call 9-1-1, begin CPR

Talk to your Children About Water Safety:

✓ “Don’t go near a pool without an adult.” This is the most important water safety chat you can have with your child because it is so simple.

✓ “If you see someone needing help in the water, do not go in the water after them. Run and get an adult”.

✓ “If you fall in a pool, reach for the wall, hold on, do not be afraid, yell for help, and if you can, climb out.” Practice this with your child in the pool wearing a bathing suit, and also wearing clothing and shoes.

Water Smart Parents

Some Choices Are Life Threatening

Protect Your Children Supervise Closely, Constantly

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Toddlers & Water: A Deadly Attraction

Toddlers Love to Splash, Drizzle, Pour and Play in Water . . .

. . . Even if it is a
- Toilet
- Dog bowl
- Dishwasher
- Sink
- Bucket filled soapy water
- Rain water in a container

Toddlers
- Are about Me-Mine-Now
- Have no fear
- Are very curious
- Able to think of things that are out of sight or reach
- Require patience & constant supervision
- Can wake up unexpectedly and quickly leave a safe area without being noticed

Toddlers Are Also at Risk for Drowning
- The head of a toddler weighs more than the rest of their body, which makes them likely to topple over when they lean forward.
- They can drown in water as little as 2 inches
- They are quick and on the run

Why do Toddlers Drown?
- Lack of Proper Adult Supervision
- Easy Access to Water
- Parents, family members do not know how to respond in an emergency
- Parents assume barriers are working properly and effectively in place

Children who drown do not Scream, Splash or Struggle,
They silently slip beneath the water,
Most often with a parent nearby

Drowning occurs in as little as 2 minutes
Irreversible brain Damage occurs in as little as 4 minutes
Most children die who are under water for as little as 6 minutes