

Water safety questions and answers



What does SAFE stand for?

Stay away from (the) edge.

Why is it dangerous to swim in open water? Give at least three reasons.

The water could be very deep, the water could be very cold, there could be hidden obstacles in the water, there could be strong currents, there are no lifeguards, it would be difficult to be rescued, the water could be murky, and there could be high banks.

Why is it safer to go to a swimming pool than to swim in open water? Give at least three reasons.

Swimming pool water is warm, swimming pool water is clear, you know how deep a swimming pool is, there are no hidden obstacles under the water in a swimming pool, and there are lifeguards at a swimming pool who keep watch and rescue people.

How can cold water affect your swimming ability?

It's harder to swim in cold water because you can get cramp. Cold water can also take your breath away.

Why is diving into shallow water dangerous?

You could hit your head on the bottom – if you hit your head, you could damage your neck or even become paralysed.

How can people doing water sports stay safe?

They should wear a lifejacket or floating aid, they should join a club where they can learn the sport safely, they should never go without an adult, and they should never be silly or mess around.

What could you throw to someone in the water to help them float? Name three things.

Anything that floats, for example, a lifebuoy, football, or inflated armband.

Why is it a bad idea to jump in to water to try and save someone?

Whatever caused the problem for the person who needs saving could cause the same problem for the person trying to rescue them. The person who needs rescuing could pull the other person under the water. There may not be anyone else around to help both people climb out of the water.

How can you get help in an emergency?

Run for help: dial 999 from the nearest call box or mobile phone.

Should you walk on a frozen river or use a bridge?

Use a bridge.

Is it OK to push a friend in the water 'as a joke'?

No.

Is it right to refuse to swim in a river with your friends?

Yes – it can be dangerous.

Should you wade into the water to get a ball back?

No.

Should you still stay away from the edge if someone needs help in the water?

Yes, you should stay away from the edge and try to get help.

Is it safe to jump off a bridge if your friend did and they were OK?

No.

What do each of the signs in the picture mean?

The person asking the questions could cut the pictures out and show the pictures separately as different questions.



No running



No swimming



No diving



Danger:
deep water



Lifejacket must
be worn