

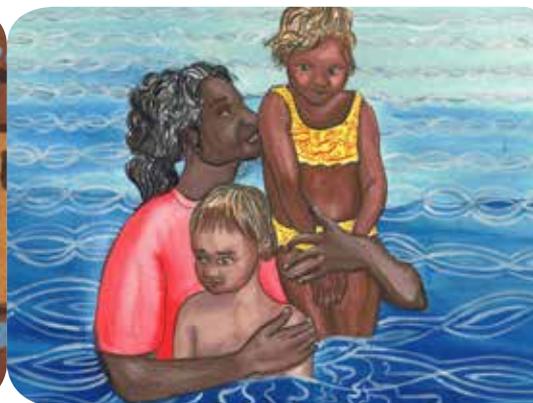
SUPERVISION

EVERYONE CAN BE A LIFESAVER



Royal Life Saving

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY - AUSTRALIA



Q: What is supervision?

A: Supervision is always having visual contact with your child. It is being there with your children, watching them carefully.

Q: What is active supervision?

A: Active supervision means having all of your attention on your children all of the time, when they are in, on or around the water. You must be within arms' reach and ready to enter the water if needed.

Q: How can being too busy affect supervision?

A: Parents often try to do too many things at once to save time. When you do this you can become distracted and do not give your full attention to your children.

Q: Can older children watch younger children?

A: No. Older children do not have the skills to understand and respond to an emergency situation, nor should they be given this responsibility.

Q: What is the best way to supervise children at gatherings?

A: Make an adult responsible for their care. If that supervisor leaves they should hand the responsibility to another adult to take over. If there are a large number of children, there needs to be an adult at each different place the children will play, to keep watch.

Supervision Checklist:

- Everything ready for bathing your child or going swimming e.g. towels, dry clothes, cordless phone or answering machine on
- Child actively supervised within arms' reach
- All of your attention focused on your child all of the time when they are in, on, or around water
- Child not left alone or in the care of an older child when around water or in the bath
- Prepared to get wet in case of an emergency

DROWNING HAPPENS QUICKLY AND SILENTLY.

ALWAYS ACTIVELY SUPERVISE YOUR CHILD AROUND WATER.

Real Life Story – Active Supervision is Key!

A 3 year old toddler has drowned after falling into the Fitzroy River. The young child was with a group of family members who had gathered together. There were a number of children in the area and it is thought that the young child wandered off to play with them. The child was discovered shortly after floating face down in the river.

In large groups, people may mistakenly think that another adult is watching the children. It is important there is an adult responsible for the care of the young children to keep watch and prevent accidents from occurring.

KEEP WATCH, PROTECT YOUR MOB

Contact Royal Life Saving NSW on: **02 9634 3700** or download from www.royallifesaving.com.au

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