

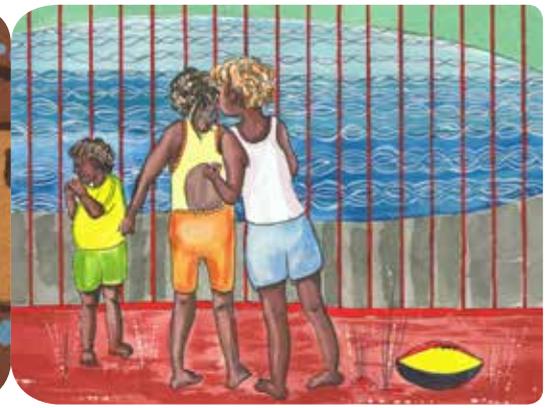
# RESTRICT ACCESS

EVERYONE CAN BE A LIFESAVER



**Royal Life Saving**

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY - AUSTRALIA



## Q: What does restricting access mean?

A: Restricting access means making sure there is a barrier between your young ones and a body of water.

Barrier around young ones – A Child Safe Play Area can be used inside or outside the home and is especially useful for water which you cannot fence, for example dams on farms and inflatable pools.

Barrier around the water – This includes closing the door to the bathroom, ensuring buckets are emptied and out of reach. All swimming pools and spas need a fence with a self-closing and self-locking gate in accordance with council regulations. Portable and inflatable pools capable of being filled to a depth of greater than 300mm also need to be fenced by law. Contact your local council for more information.

## Q: Why do fences and barriers fail?

A: This can happen when gates are left opened, fences and gates aren't maintained and objects are left against the fence for kids to climb over.

## Q: Is there a better method than restricting access?

A: Yes, removing the danger is more effective. You can remove the danger by emptying the bathtub and buckets after use and filling in holes and any other water holding features that are no longer in use.

## Q: What is the benefit of Child Safe Play Areas?

A: Child Safe Play Areas restricts a child's access to bodies of water that you cannot fence. They are carefully planned, in a designated location which is securely fenced and help prevent young children from gaining access to water without adult supervision.

## Restrict Access Checklist:

- Pool/spa fenced effectively. Completed checklist from [www.homepoolsafety.com.au](http://www.homepoolsafety.com.au)
- Bathtub drained and door to the bathroom closed
- Child Safe Play Area established. A child safe play area can be used both inside and outside and assist adults in being able to actively supervise children
- All water bodies with a depth of 300mm or more fenced in accordance to State or Territory legislation. Contact your local council for more information
- Remove the danger. Empty bathtubs, buckets, or any item used to hold water after use

FENCE/GATE/MAINTAIN

## Real Life Story – Dangers of Inflatable Pools

A 2 year old girl drowned in an inflatable pool in the Northern Territory. The pool was not fenced and had filled with water due to recent rains. The young girl was unsupervised when she wandered away from the family and fell into the inflatable pool. By the time the child was found, she couldn't be revived.

This tragic case highlights the importance of supervision and restricting a young child's access to water. Always remember to actively supervise children within arms' reach and to consider a child safe play area where water cannot be fenced, such as on farms and rural properties.

## KEEP WATCH, PROTECT YOUR MOB

Contact Royal Life Saving NSW on:  
**02 9634 3700** or download from  
[www.royallifesaving.com.au](http://www.royallifesaving.com.au)

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