



HELPING EVERY CHILD **STAY SAFE** AROUND WATER

Dear Provider,

At Water Safety Ireland, we believe it's never too early to start learning how to be safe around water. In fact, the earlier children begin to understand water's potential dangers, the more it fosters a healthy respect for water safety as they grow. That's why we've created these resources specially for Early Learning and Care providers.

WATER SAFETY BEGINS BY HOLDING HANDS

If we can get children to do this one thing it will save lives. That's to **always hold an adult's hand near water** and never go near it without them. These resources have been created to firmly instil this point while also making water safety relevant for pre-school children.

Enclosed you'll find two cardboard pointers and a series of six storyboards. Each focuses on water safety in different areas and has key learning points in both Irish and English on the reverse. Use these points to discuss in group how to be safe in each area. Then the pointers come into play. Let each child take turns holding one while pointing out safe and unsafe behaviour in each scenario. Each pointer is designed to also be a hand, so whenever a child engages, it reinforces our key message.

Please take the time to use this kit with as many children as you can in your care. Use your own experiences and knowledge to discuss the **WHY? & BECAUSE** in relation to each point.

For all children, it has been a year without swimming lessons. So with summer on the way, it's more important than ever that we encourage children to think and talk about water safety. Not only are you teaching them how to safely have fun around water, you are helping to save lives.

Thanks for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Martin O'Sullivan,
Chairman, Water Safety Ireland

Water Safety Ireland would like to thank:

The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth; Early Childhood Ireland and Seas Suas for their help developing these resources.

PS. We've also included a poster. Please put it up where all your staff can see it so they are aware of the initiative.



AG CABHRÚ LE GACH LEANBH FANACHT SLÁN SÁBHÁILTE AGUS IAD THART AR AN UISCE

A Sholáthraí,

Anseo i Sábháilteacht Uisce na hÉireann, creidimid nach bhfuil sé róluath choíche foghlaim conas fanacht slán sábháilte san uisce. Go deimhin, dá luaithe a chuirtear leanaí ar an eolas faoi na contúirtí a d'fhéadfadh a bheith ag baint leis an uisce is ea is túisce a chothófar iontu meas sláintiúil ar an tsábháilteacht uisce de réir mar a fhásfaidh siad aníos. Sin an fáth a bhfuil na hacmhainní speisialta seo curtha le chéile againn do sholáthraithe Fhoghlaim agus Chúram na Luath-Óige.

TÚSPHOINTE NA SÁBHÁILTEACHTA UISCE É GREIM A FHÁIL AR LÁMHA A CHÉILE

Más féidir linn iarraidh ar leanaí an rud tábhachtach amháin sin a dhéanamh, sábhálfar beatha daoine. Sin greim lámhe a bheith acu ar dhuine fásta agus iad thart ar an uisce agus gan dul isteach ann gan duine fásta a bheith in éineacht leo. Cruthaíodh na hacmhainní seo chun an méid sin a chur ar a súile do chách agus aird leanaí réamhscoile a dhíriú ar an tsábháilteacht uisce.

Faoi iamh gheobhaidh tú dhá phointeoir cairtchláir mar aon le sraith de shé scéalchlár. Dírionn gach ceann acu ar shábháilteacht uisce i réimsí éagsúla agus tá príomhphointí foghlama i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla ar a chúil. Bain úsáid as na pointí sin chun plé i ngrúpaí a chothú maidir le conas fanacht sábháilte i ngach ceann de na réimsí ábhartha. Is ag an staid seo a bhaintear úsáid as na pointeoirí. Lig do na linbh greim a bhreith air ar a seal agus iarr orthu iompar sábháilte agus neamhshábháilte i ngach aon cheann de na cásanna a chur in iúl ag an am céanna. Tá gach pointeoir deartha chun bheith ina lámh freisin, mar sin aon uair a bhíonn sé ina ghlac ag leanbh, cuireann sé go mór mór lenár bpríomhtheachtairacht.

Tóg do chuid ama leis an píosa trealaimh seo a úsáid, le do thoil, agus tú ag déanamh cúraim den oiread is mó leanaí agus is féidir san aon am amháin. Bain úsáid as do thairbhí agus do chuid eolais féin chun plé ar CÉN FÁTH? & MAR maidir le gach pointe.

Ba dhoiligh an bhliain í do na leanaí go léir agus gan iad a bheith in ann dul chuig a gceachtanna snámha. Agus an samhradh ag teannadh linn, tá sé níos tábhachtaí ná riamh go spreagaimid ár leanaí chun a bheith ag déanamh machnamh ar an tsábháilteacht uisce agus plé uirthi a chothú. Ní hamháin go bhfuil tú chun a mhúineadh dóibh conas fanacht slán sábháilte agus iad ag pleidhcócht san uisce, is ag cuidiú le beatha daoine a shábháil atá tú chomh maith.

Gabhaim buíochas leat as ucht do chuid tacaíochta.

Is mise, le meas,

Martin O'Sullivan,
Cathaoirleach,
Sábháilteacht Uisce na hÉireann

Ba mhaith le Sábháilteacht Uisce na hÉireann buíochas a ghabháil leo seo a leanas:

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige; Luath-óige Éireann agus Sheas Suas as ucht cabhrú linn na hacmhainní seo a fhorbairt.

PS. Tá póstaer curtha faoi iamh againn freisin. Chun an tionscnamh seo a chur ar a súile don fhoireann, croch suas é, le do thoil, in áit a mbeidh siad go léir in ann é a fheiceáil.