



Dear K-8 Administrators and School Representatives,

Empower your students to make water safe decisions by registering your school for the free Water Safe Washington K-8 lesson! Drowning is the second leading cause of injury-related death for children ages 5-14, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Share the registration confirmation with ALL of your teaching staff to allow teachers to sign up individual classes and receive the emailed lesson plan. Early sign ups will receive supporting materials: backpack charms, stickers, and certificates, limited supply.

Lesson Overview

Water Safe Washington's standards-based lesson uses engaging teaching videos, group activities, and a comprehension check-up.

The Washington Recreational Boating Safety Program's lesson plan builds water safety knowledge through three lifesaving messages:

1. Wear your life jacket.
2. Reach or throw, but don't go into the water to help someone.
3. Be cautious of hazards, like cold and moving water.

Family Engagement

To educate and empower families, each student receives a water safety pledge certificate to share the three lifesaving messages.

The 2026 lesson plan aligns with Washington State Health and Social Emotional Learning Education Standards:

- **Health:** Wellness, Safety, Social Emotional Health, Injury Prevention
- **Social Emotional Learning:** Self-management, Self-efficacy, and social engagement

Complete list of standards included in the lesson plan.



Ensure your students are water safe!

[Register Your School!](#)



- OR -
Scan the QR
Code here!



Frequently Asked Questions

How long is the water safety lesson?

The basic water safety lesson takes about 50 minutes, can vary by grade, and can be delivered in one or several segments. The lesson includes grade specific bonus activities: a science experiment, worksheets, coloring contest, craft for bulletin boards and more.

When will I receive the lesson plan and supporting materials?

The lesson will be delivered in early spring via teacher email with an unlimited number of participating classrooms available. Supporting materials are limited—sign up early! They'll be shipped to classroom teachers by April 20th, while supplies last.

When should I teach the lesson?

May is a good month to teach the lesson and prepare your students for a water safe summer with water safety education. May 15, 2026, is Washington State's 3rd Annual Water Safety Day ([HB 1750](#))

Participant Feedback:

"Water Safe Washington taught students critical water safety skills while fostering a culture of respect and preparedness around water. Students now have the knowledge and confidence to make smart, safe decisions around water and families were involved and educated as well"

- Willapa Valley Elementary

Please reach out to Theresa Wood Boating Safety Program Coordinator: Theresa.Wood@parks.wa.gov with any questions.



Recreational
Boating Safety
Program



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