

TOPIC 2

Water Safety



1. Warm up

Where would you see this?

What does it mean?

Who are these people?

What do they do?

Why are they wearing hats and long-sleeved shirts?

Do you see them at all beaches?

What time of the year would you see them?

What are they holding?



Permission to use lifesaver image given by Life Saving Victoria Multicultural Dept.

2. Listening: Cloze exercise

Listen to the recording and use the words below to complete the text.



currents rip beaches lifesavers patrolled flags
swim dangerous drownings signs surf

Australian beaches

Australia is the largest island in the world and is surrounded by many beautiful _____. However, not all beaches are safe to _____ in. Many of the _____ beaches are _____, especially for people who can't swim or aren't used to swimming in the ocean. Surf beaches often have _____. Rips are strong _____ running out to sea from a surf beach. They cause problems especially for weak swimmers and have caused many _____.

During summer beaches are _____ by _____. Each year surf lifesavers rescue about 12 000 people in Australia. It is important to read the _____ at the beach to be aware of any dangers and to check conditions. Stay safe and always swim between the red and yellow _____.

Read the text and answer the questions

1. What is the text about?

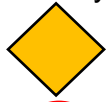
- Learning how to swim
- Australian beaches
- Australian beaches and beach safety

2. True or False

- All beaches in Australia are safe to swim in.
- Australia is surrounded by water.
- Lifesavers patrol beaches all year round.
- Always swim between the blue and yellow flags.
- Surf beaches often have strong rips

3. Reading & Writing: Safety Signs

Safety signs are put into place to inform us.



Yellow signs warn us about hazards



Red circles with a line tell us what is prohibited (can't do)



Information on what we can do







Safety signs – tell us where to locate safety provisions or safety advice

A. Which sign belongs where?

Read the following signs that you might find at the beach. Write them under the group where you think they belong.

swim between the flags first aid no diving shallow water
windsurfing allowed to the left no surfing between the flags slippery rocks
emergency phone deep holes no snorkelling jellyfish

Warning 	Regulation Can't do 	Information Can do 	Safety 

When finished compare and discuss with a partner.

B. Match the sign with its meaning



No boating allowed to the right of the arrow



First Aid



Warning, be careful of strong currents.



No swimming allowed in this area.



Swim between the yellow and red flags

4. Listen & answer



Listen to the dialogue and answer the questions

1. Where do you think they are?
2. What are they talking about? Tick
 a safe place to swim
 the weather
 Australia
3. Which is safer a patrolled beach or an unpatrolled beach? Why?
4. How do you know if a beach is patrolled?
5. What colour flags should they look out for?
6. Where is the safest place to swim at a patrolled beach?
7. Which sign do you think they followed? Circle



5. Understanding signs

Read the sign and answer the questions



This is an information sign telling us about an area

1. What place is this sign telling us about?
2. How many sections is the sign divided into?
3. What does hazards mean?
4. How many hazards are there at this spot?
5. Why shouldn't I dive here?
6. What does penalty mean? ✓
____ I will have to pay money if I don't obey the rules
____ I will be arrested if I don't obey the rules
7. What are 2 things I can't do here?
 -
 -
8. Read the No smoking sign.
Where can't I smoke?
____ in the water ____ on the footpath ____ on the sand
9. Read the Lifesaving services section of the sign to answer the following questions



Does this beach have lifesavers?

How do I know they are there?

When is the beach patrolled?

6. Discussion



Read the statements and write whether you agree or disagree and then discuss with your partner/group your opinion and why.

Statement	What do you think? Agree/Disagree	Partner/group
Swimming at the beach is nicer than swimming at a swimming pool.		
Never swim after just eating.		
In Melbourne all bay beaches are safe to swim in.		
Never swim alone.		
All children should learn how to swim.		
Flotation toys are safe to use at the beach.		
Swimming at the beach after heavy rain is okay.		
Always supervise children when they are in the water.		
All migrants should have swimming lessons.		

7. Water Safety Advice

Rearrange the words to work out the safety advice. Write the advice on the line below.
Hint: Sentences begin with a capital letter and end with a full stop.

1. flags. / between / Always / the / swim

2. swim / alone. / Never

3. sunscreen / two / Apply / every / hours.

4. signs. / and / read / the / Always / beach / obey

5. around / and / children / Always / water. / in / watch

6. you / in. / the / water / the / before / Check /of / dive / depth

Now discuss in groups the reasons for each piece of advice.

8. Beachsafe app or website

Access the latest information about every Australian beach on the go. The Beachsafe app provides detailed information from patrol status, facilities and hazards to weather, swell and tide.



Instructions for iPad (app already downloaded)

1. Turn on the iPad
2. Locate the Beachsafe app
3. Click on the app
4. Click on the search icon at the bottom
5. Type in the beach you want & click on search
6. Click on the image of the beach you have searched for to find out information

Instructions for internet

1. Open the internet and type Beachsafe into your search bar
2. Go to SLS Beachsafe official site
3. Click on Find a beach in the menu
4. Type in the beach you want & click on search
5. Use your scroll bar to find out information

Use the instructions above to find out about information on the beaches below

A. Williamstown beach:

Is it patrolled?

Length of beach:

Where is the safest place to swim? (you may need to click read more)

3 hazards:

3 things I can find there:

3 things I can't do there:

Weather today:

What time are the low tides?

UV index:

Do I need sunscreen?

B. Woolamai Surf beach:

Is it patrolled?

Length of beach:

Where is the safest to swim?

3 hazards:

3 things I can find there:

3 things I can't do there:

Weather today:

What time are the low tides?

UV index:

Do I need sunscreen?

C. Your own choice

Name of beach:

Is it patrolled?

Length of beach:

Where is the safest to swim?

3 hazards:

3 things I can find there:

3 things I can't do there:

Weather today:

What time are the low tides?

UV index:

Do I need sunscreen?

More Ideas!

- Watch videos on Beachsafe app – discuss and answer questions
- Life Saving Victoria
 - CALD beach program & swim program
 - Instructional videos/ power point on what to do if someone needs help
- Dangerous animals at the beach
 - Information texts
 - First aid instructions
- Skin Cancer
 - Speakers from the Cancer Council
 - Sun Smart app (reading an information text)
- Beach Safety NSW AMES free workbook and audio recordings