



When your child is in Pearland Swim Academy lessons, we want him/her to experience only happy, carefree fun in the water as he/she learns to swim. However, the reality of children around a swimming pool is...accidents happen. It's possible in our lessons that a child might slip off the platform or be pushed into the water without the teacher expecting it.



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## Helpful Information

### "What If Your Child Falls In?"



## Instructor Training

We train and re-train our Coaches to utilize "directional teaching", (not turning their backs to the class). During each class time, PSA will have an on deck supervisor or Life Guard to watch the students.

## Benefits of a Small Accident

It is our first choice and constant goal to never have one child slip into the water unexpectedly. However, a SMALL scare does have some positive benefits. Very active children with little inhibition can suddenly become more cautious around water after an accident. We would rather that our students have a small scare at swim lessons than a serious accident swimming someplace else!

## The Instructor's Reaction

If your child falls in during lessons, the first thing we will do is make certain he/she is physically safe. If he/she is upset, we will comfort him/her. The next objective is to point out to your child what went wrong and how he/she can keep himself/herself safer around water. We have found that this is a very teachable moment. Last of all, we'd like to have your child practice swimming some more before he/she leaves. We don't want fear to be his/her last memory of swim lessons. We need to build his/her confidence back up in the water.



## The Parent's Reaction

Something you, as a parent, can do to help, is to delay running to your child if possible. Giving the teacher time to accomplish all of the objectives is very helpful. Parents will have some great opportunities to discuss the incident at the pool with the child afterwards. Try not to use statements that could enflame emotions like, "You almost drowned out there!" Although a little bit of fear can be healthy...too much fear can immobilize your child's ability to continue learning new swim skills. Tell him/her "I saw you holding your breath!", and ask "Where you kicking back to the wall?" If you notice an unhealthy fear of the water in your child, call the swim school. One of our managers will provide additional, individual help for your child.