

Flotation Fashion Show

TOPIC/SUBJECT: Life Jackets and Water Safety

TARGET AUDIENCE/AGE LEVEL: 3rd - 6th Grades

TIME: 15-20 minutes

THEME: Life jackets come in many different sizes, types and colors. Choose the one that is right for you and wear it.

GOAL/PURPOSE: The participants and audience will understand why it is important to wear a life jacket when taking part in water related activities.

OBJECTIVE(S):

- A. The audience will be able to identify the different types of life jackets, and why they should fit properly.
- B. The audience will be aware that life jackets are required for certain activities (personal watercraft, water skiing, and board sailing).

DESCRIPTION:

- A. Remind the audience that drowning is the second leading cause of accidental death for people 0-44 years of age. Most drowning victims were not wearing a life jacket and knew how to swim.
- B. Select volunteers to model each type of life jacket. At least 5 volunteers are needed.
- C. The presenter should assume the role of an enthusiastic “master of ceremonies.” While you are narrating, have the volunteers make an entrance, turn around, and show off their life jacket. Be creative in your narrative - “The latest style, seen here today in high visibility orange, is available at your local sporting goods store. Notice the freedom of movement for casting your favorite lure, and the wrap around design to keep you warm on those blustery days.” With a little creativity, the various disadvantages and advantages of certain life jackets can be molded into a couple of sentences.

SUGGESTED MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT: At least one example of Type I - Type V life jackets.