

## "The Story of Ranger Willie B. Safe"

**TOPIC/SUBJECT:** Water Safety skit

**TARGET AUDIENCE/AGE LEVEL:** All ages

**TIME:** 10 - 15 minutes

**THEME:** Members of Ranger Willie B. Safe's Safety Team make safe choices while around the water.

**GOAL/PURPOSE:** Participants will realize the importance of being safe on or around the water.

**OBJECTIVE(S):** Participants will be able to name at least 3 water safety principles and associate the "thumbs up" sign with safety.

### **DESCRIPTION:**

- A. Have a cassette player with the "The Story of Willie B. Safe" song ready to play.
- B. Hand out a copy of "The Story of Willie B. Safe" song to everyone in the audience. First have everyone listen to the song without singing. Encourage audience participation in singing the song the second time it is played.
- C. Before playing the song the second time ask for volunteers to come up to the front of the audience to act out the song. The number of volunteers can vary.
- D. Distribute the props to the volunteers and explain to them what they will need to do.
  - Five volunteers can hold one of the different cue cards. The remaining cards can be distributed throughout the audience. When the volunteers holding the cards hear the phrase that is on their card they should hold it up for everyone to see.
  - One volunteer can blow up and hold two balloons. The volunteer should not tie the balloons. They let go of the balloons on the "don't depend on inflatable toys" phrase.
  - The volunteer that wears the life jacket models it during the "PFD" section of the song.
  - If you use a wheelchair, have one volunteer sit in it and another one push it towards the audience during the "Never Dive" section of the song. The volunteer could also wear a neck brace during this section of the song.
  - The volunteer that wears the big sunglasses starts looking around at the audience during "those watching are sure to see" phrase of the song.
  - A volunteer can hold the minnow bucket and they toss it somewhere near the audience during "something nearby that floats will do" phrase of the song.
  - During the "hold out a paddle and pull them to you" phrase of the song, the volunteer holding the boat oar reaches it out to someone.
  - Everybody hugs one another during the "Lots More Hugs" section of the song.
- E. When the song is over, let everyone know that they are now a part of Ranger Willie's Safety Team. Encourage everyone to give you a thumbs up for safety. Explain to the audience that if they ever see you again to give you a thumbs up and then you will know that they are part of Ranger Willie's Safety Team. Also, encourage them to give other people a thumbs up for safety when they see them being safe.

### **SUGGESTED MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT:**

The Story of Willie B. Safe song sheets, "You Can't Keep a Good Life Jacket Down!" cassette – "The Story of Willie B. Safe" song

- minnow bucket
- life jacket
- microphone
- balloons
- large sunglasses
- wheelchair (optional)
- boat oar
- tape player
- neck brace (optional)

**3 of each: Learn to Swim, PFD, Never Dive, Swim with a Buddy, and Lots More Hugs signs**