Children can drown in this much water
**KEY MESSAGE**
Children can drown in only a few centimetres of water

**Getting started**
- Show me how much water a child can drown in
- What are some things around your home or yard a child could drown in?

**Activities**
- Identify potential water hazards around the home including baths, spas and pools, buckets, ponds, water features, puddles, holes filled with water, pet bowls, gutters
- Discuss potential water hazards within the community including dams, creeks, the sea, fountains and water troughs on farms

**Safety tip**
- When visiting a new home always ask about potential water hazards and watch children closely

**Did you know?**
- Children drown silently and quickly
Always watch children around water
KEY MESSAGE
Adults must always watch children closely around water

Getting started
- Do you have a pool?

Activities
- Discuss the picture
- Talk about why it is so important to keep watch on children around water
- Discuss how a ringing phone, other children or friends could distract adults from watching children around water

Did you know?
- Toddlers aged 9-18 months may be able to hold themselves in a sitting position and walk, but they often cannot raise their head out of even shallow water if they fall face down
Always empty the bath and wading pool straight after use
KEY MESSAGE
Always empty the bath and wading pool straight after use

Getting started
■ Why do you think this mother is emptying the wading pool?
■ How should she store it once it’s empty?

Activity
■ List other containers of water, such as mop buckets and washing machines that must be emptied etc etc

Safety tip
■ Store wading pools vertically or in the garden shed to avoid filling with water during rain

Did you know?
■ Drowning is the biggest killer of Australian children under five years
Always stay with children in the bath
KEY MESSAGE
An adult must always stay with children when they are in the bath

Getting started
- Why do you need to stay with your baby or child when they are in the bath?
- What sorts of things might distract you when bathing your baby or child?

Activities
- Discuss how to deal with or ignore distractions such as a ringing phone or door bell and other children
- Establish why older children should never be left to supervise younger children in the bath
- Learn CPR

Safety tips
- If you want to answer the door or phone, wrap your child in a towel and take them with you
- When not using the bath, keep plugs up out of children’s reach to prevent them running water in a bath

Did you know?
- For every drowning there are 3 near drownings. These often result in permanent brain damage
Never use a bath cradle
KEY MESSAGE
Never use a bath cradle

Getting started
■ Do you use a bath cradle?
■ Why is a bath cradle dangerous?

Activities
■ Discuss why bath cradles can be dangerous
■ Reinforce that children have drowned in these seats

Links to card 29
Never use a bathing seat
KEY MESSAGE
Never use a bath seat

Getting started
■ Do you use a bath seat?
■ Why is a bath seat dangerous?

Activities
■ Discuss why bath seats can be dangerous
■ Reinforce that children have drowned in these seats

Did you know?
■ Many parents falsely believe these are a safety device

Links to card
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Always shut the bathroom and toilet door when not in use
KEY MESSAGE
Shut the bathroom and toilet door when not in use to prevent children entering unsupervised

Getting started
■ How could a child be hurt in the bathroom or toilet?
■ Can your child go into the bathroom or toilet on their own?

Activities
■ Together, check if the child can reach the door handles
■ If door handles are low, look at door knob covers or locks. Could these be used to prevent children accessing the bathroom or toilet unsupervised?

Safety tip
■ Use a toilet lock to stop toddlers lifting the toilet lid

Did you know?
■ Toddlers are top heavy and can fall forward when leaning to look at something of interest e.g. fish in a pond, the bath or toilet
Use a bucket with lid and keep it up high
KEY MESSAGE
When soaking nappies or clothes, use a bucket with a lid and keep it up high. Always empty buckets of water used for cleaning straight after use and never leave them unattended.

Getting started
■ What do you use buckets for in your home?
■ How could these be dangerous to your child?

Activities
■ Discuss what buckets are used for in the home, including soaking nappies and clothes, washing floors, cars etc
■ Discuss how children have drowned in buckets
■ Discuss the importance of always using a bucket with a lid for soaking and of keeping it up high

Did you know?
■ 2-3 Australian toddlers a year drown in nappy buckets