

Activity: The Water Around Us

Grade Level: Kindergarten

Major Emphasis: Water and Boating Safety

Major Curriculum Area: Social Studies

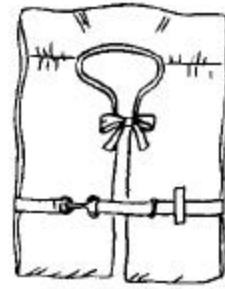
Related Curriculum Areas:

Refer to Outdoor Education Curriculum Matrix K-2

Science

Language Arts

Mathematics



Program Indicator :

The student will demonstrate a positive self-concept by behaving appropriately in a variety of situations.

Student Outcomes: The student will:

1. demonstrate safe water and boating practices. **(DL1,2,5)**
2. demonstrate proper use of a personal flotation device (PFD). **(DL1,2,5)**

Readiness:

1. Introduce vocabulary:
personal flotation device PFD rowboat deep
oars pier river safety
2. Borrow PFDs from the Outdoor Education Center and allow students to try them on.
3. Provide experience with activities which demonstrate sinking and floating.

Materials:

rowboats depth line and clip
oars ring buoy
PFDs for each student and adult student response cards
safety posters A-E (Supplements A-E)

Procedures:

1. Seat all students at waterfront area. Demonstrate how to put on a PFD.
2. Instruct all students to put on PFDs. Assist as necessary.

Activity A: Pier Safety

1. Inform students that they are going to look at some pictures and answer questions about water safety before they go onto the pier. Give each student a response card. Inform the students that they should show the happy face side to answer **Asafe@** and the sad face side to answer **Aunsafe@**. Refer to Supplements A-E for pictures.

2. Display **AWater Safety Picture A.** Say, **A**There is no grown-up with this child at the water. Is that safe or unsafe? Allow the students to respond; they should show the sad face. Display **AWater Safety Picture B** and say, **A**There is a grown-up with this child at the water. Is that safe or unsafe? Allow the students to respond; they should show the happy face. State the water safety rule: **A**Kindergartners should always be with a grown-up when they are near water. Have students explain why this is important. Have them repeat the rule.
3. Display **AWater Safety Picture C.** Say, **A**This child is not wearing a PFD on the pier. Is that safe or unsafe? Allow students to respond; they should show the sad face. Display **AWater Safety Picture D** and say, **A**This child is wearing a PFD on the pier. Is that safe or unsafe? Allow the students to respond; they should show the happy face. State the rule: **A**Wearing a PFD can keep a kindergartner safe. Have students explain why this is important. Have them repeat the rule.
4. Display **AWater Safety Picture E.** Say, **A**This child is running to tell a grown-up that someone has fallen into the water. Is that safe or unsafe? Allow the students to respond; they should show the happy face. State the rule: **A** If someone falls into the water, run and tell a grown-up. Do not go into the water to help them.
5. Move out onto the pier. Remind the students to walk in the middle of the pier.
6. Encourage students to observe the water. Ask, **A**Can you tell how deep the water is? Could you stand in this water and breathe?
7. Explain to the students that the instructor will measure the depth of the water. Lower the depth line into the water until the weight rests on the bottom. Put a clip on the rope at the level of the water surface. Lift the line out of the water and hold it up on the pier.
8. Ask for a volunteer to compare water depth and the height of the student. Hold the depth line next to the student.
9. Ask, **A**Could you stand up in this water and still breathe? **A**Should you ever get in water if you don't know how deep it is? No, if you don't know how deep it is, you should not get in the water.

Activity B: Row Boat Safety

1. Move out onto the pier. Remind the students to walk in the middle of the pier to the boats. The chaperone will monitor the students on the pier while the instructor demonstrates how to enter the boat safely.
2. Explain to the students how to get into the boat safely:
 - a. Sit on the edge of the pier.
 - b. Put your feet in the boat.
 - c. To get into the boat, **A**stay low, move slow and keep near the center.
 - d. Sit in an open seat.
3. Require students to use this procedure to enter the boat. The instructor will hold the pier to steady the boat and the chaperone will assist students into the boat. After students are seated in the boat, instruct them to stay seated and keep their hands in the boat. Teach them the boating safety rule: Always wear a PFD when you are in a boat.

4. Row in the designated area. Encourage students to use their senses to observe the environment by asking questions: What do you see? smell? hear? feel? (They may not touch the water but may feel a breeze, the warmth of the sun, the rocking of the boat, etc.)
 5. Return to the pier. The instructor will hold the pier to steady the boat while the chaperone assists students out of the boat one at a time. Review *Stay low, move slow* and keep near the center as students exit the boat.
 6. Return to the waterfront area.
- Only after all activities are completed may PFDs be removed.

Summary:

1. Ask students, *If you were to fall in this water, what are you wearing that would keep you safe?*
2. Ask students, *Who can tell us a water or boating safety rule?* The instructor may clarify responses.

Summary of Rules:

Kindergartners should always be with a grown-up when they are near water.

Wearing a PFD can keep a kindergartner safe.

If someone falls into the water, run and tell a grown-up. Never go in the water.

Always wear a PFD when you are in a boat.

Follow-Up:

1. Develop an LEA or journal entry from the experience to review water and boating safety rules.
2. Review water safety rules and complete water safety picture, *Safety Sense*. Refer to Supplement F.
3. Using text from LEA, assist students in creating pages for each sentence to be bound into a class big book.

Extension:

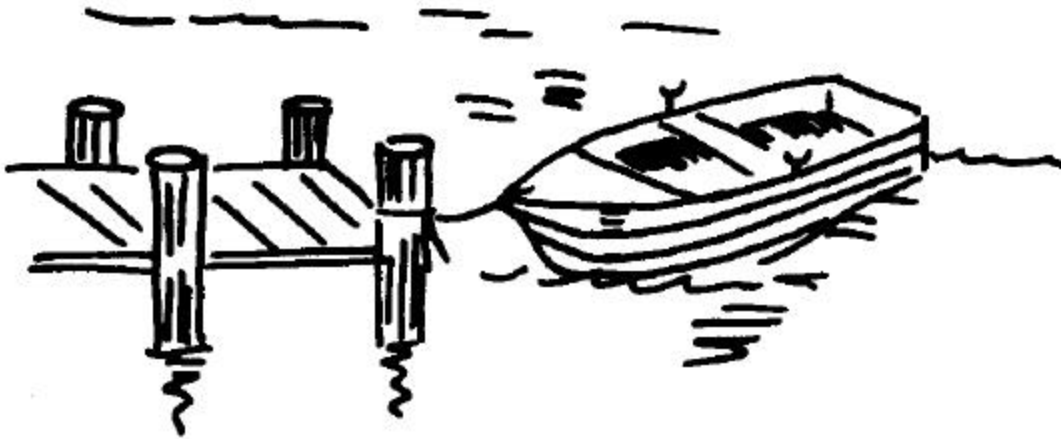
1. Class canoe race - Use large sheets of brown paper to cut out two sides of a canoe. Provide one canoe for each group of three students. Have students use Native American symbols to decorate each side of their canoe. Staple the two ends of the sides together, leaving enough room for the students to stand up and hold the canoe for the race. (MC)
2. Sing songs such as *Row, Row, Row, Your Boat* or *My Bonnie Lies Over The Ocean*.
3. Compare water safety rules to other safety rules.

Teacher Resources:

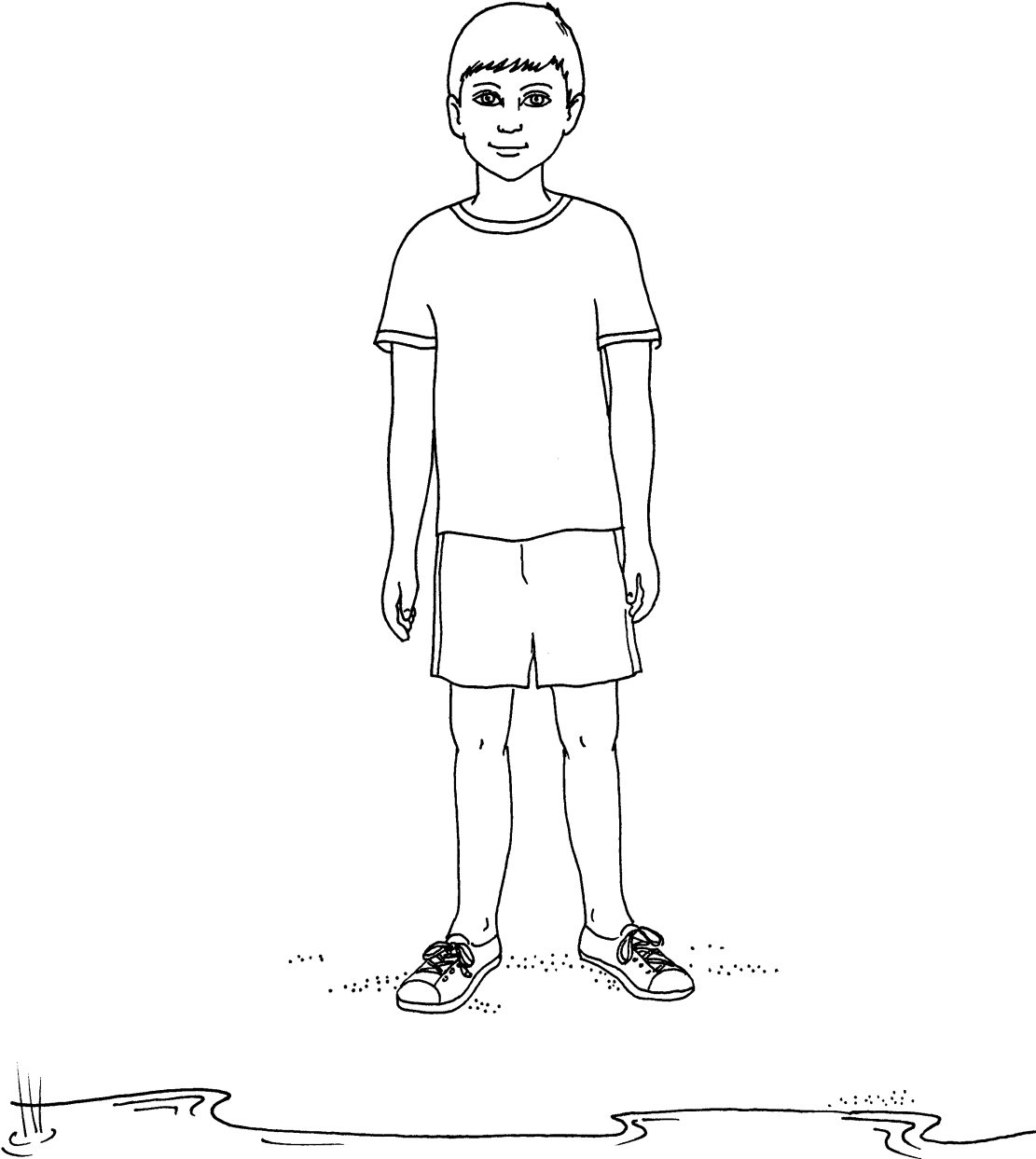
Books:

- < [*Water and Boat, MSDE Resource Guide and Supplemental Activities.](#)

- < *Parents= Guide for Teaching Safe Boating, American Red Cross.
- < *Instructor-s Manual for Rowing.
- < *Basic Rescue and Water Safety.
- < Water Safety, Maryland Department of Natural Resources.
- < Mr. Gumpys Outing, Burningham, John, Holt, Rinehart & Winston.

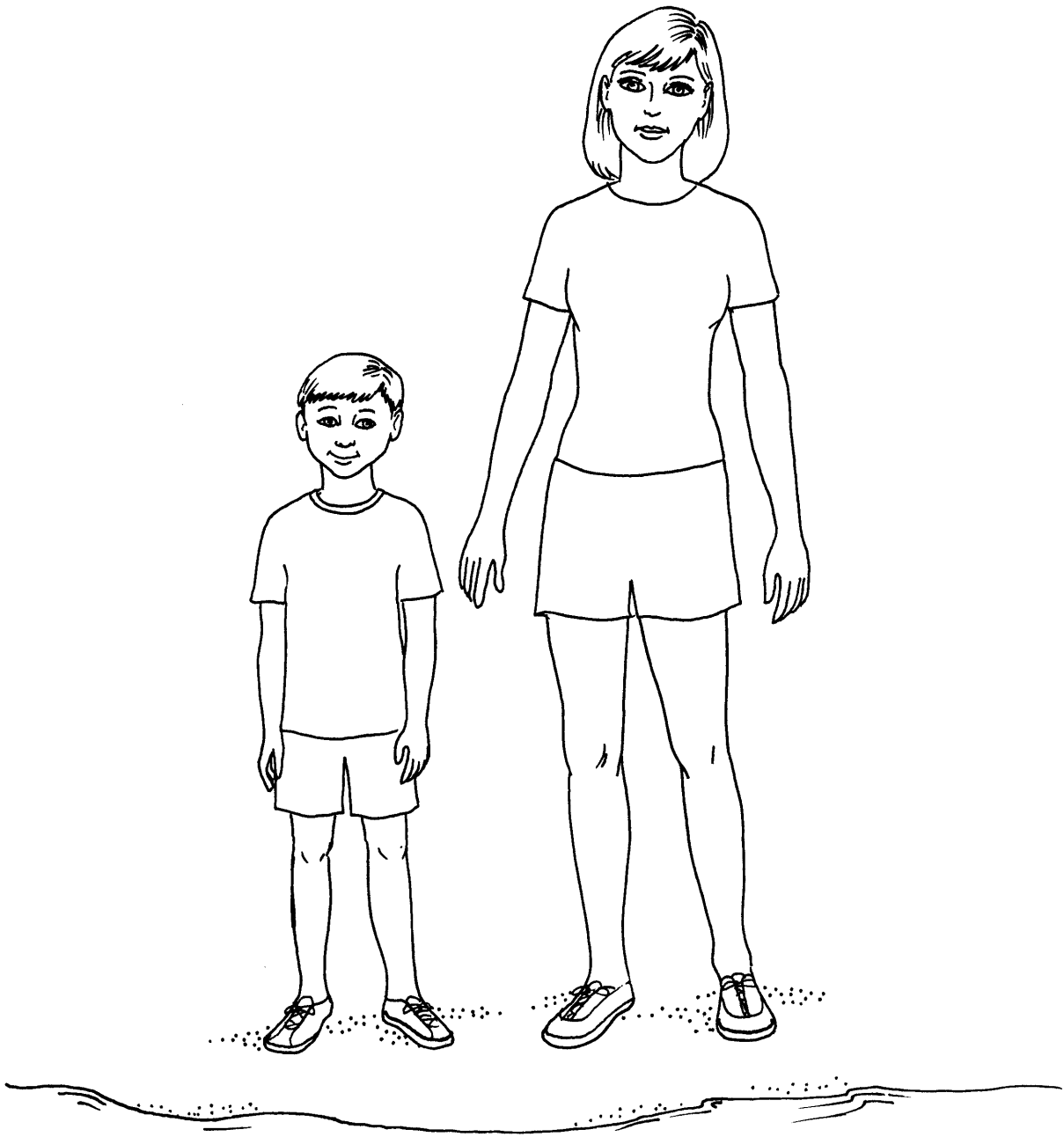


Water Safety Picture A



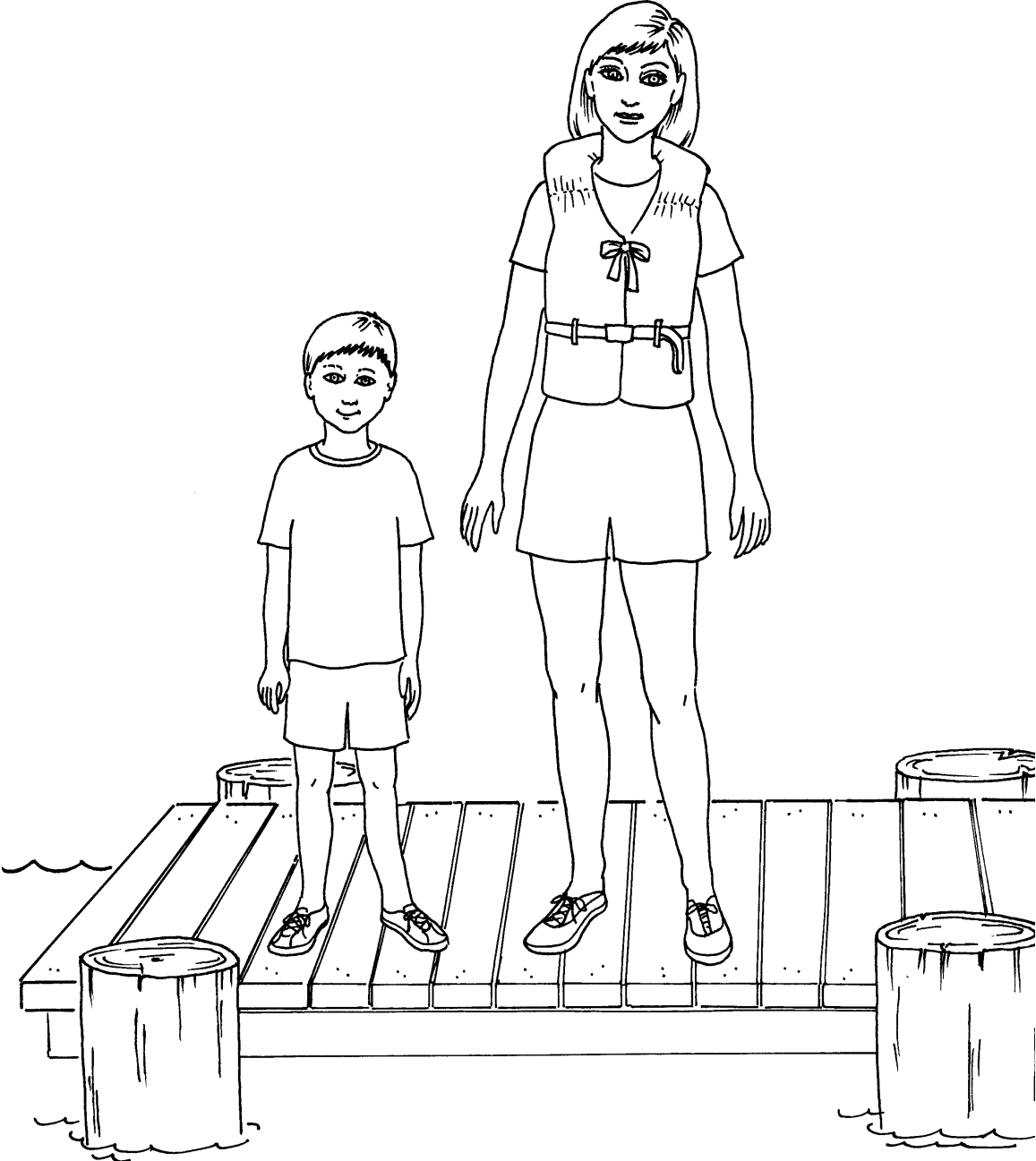
There is no grab that safe with himself at the water.

Water Safety Picture B

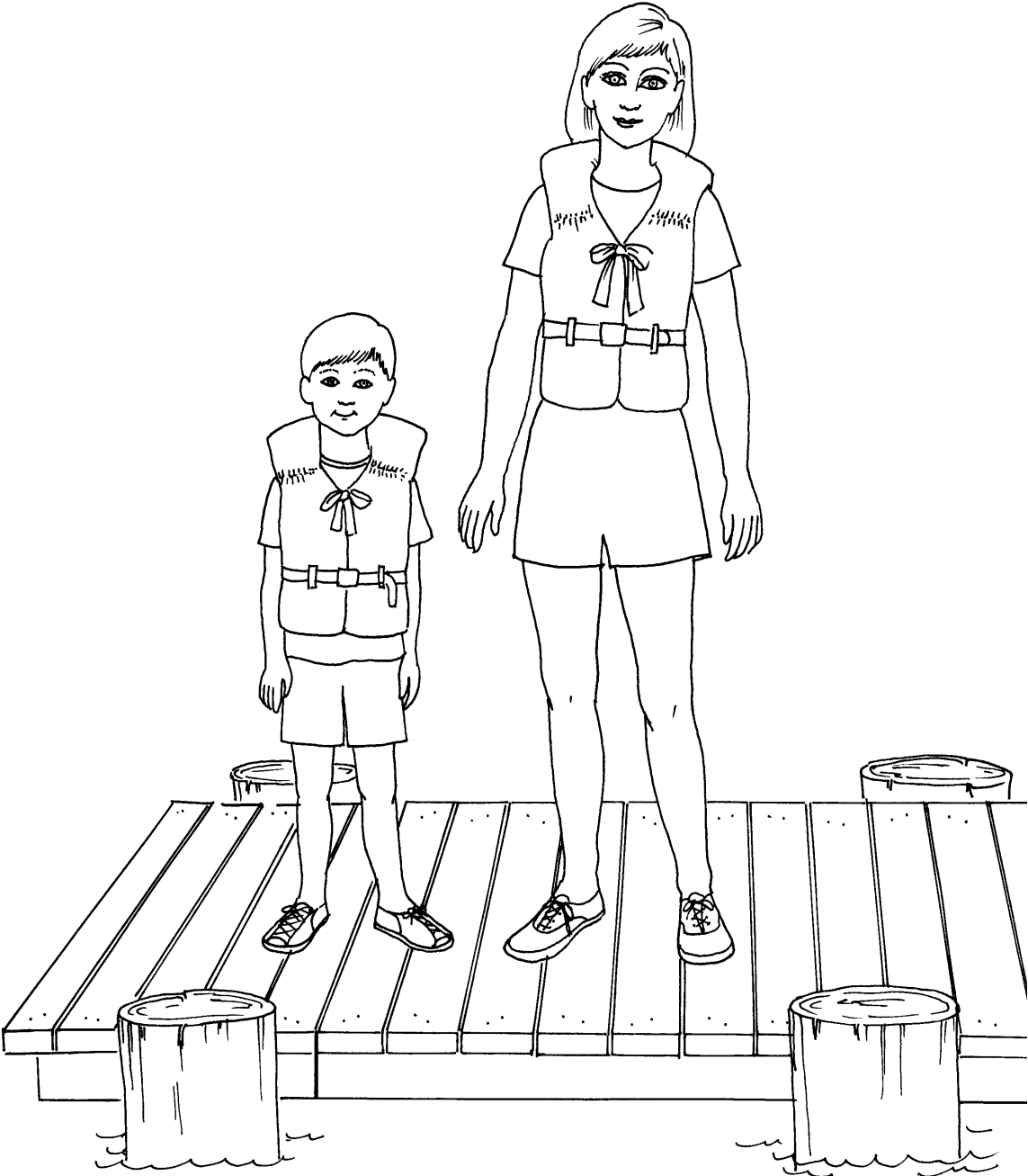


~~Kindergartners should~~ always be with a grown-up

Water Safety Picture C

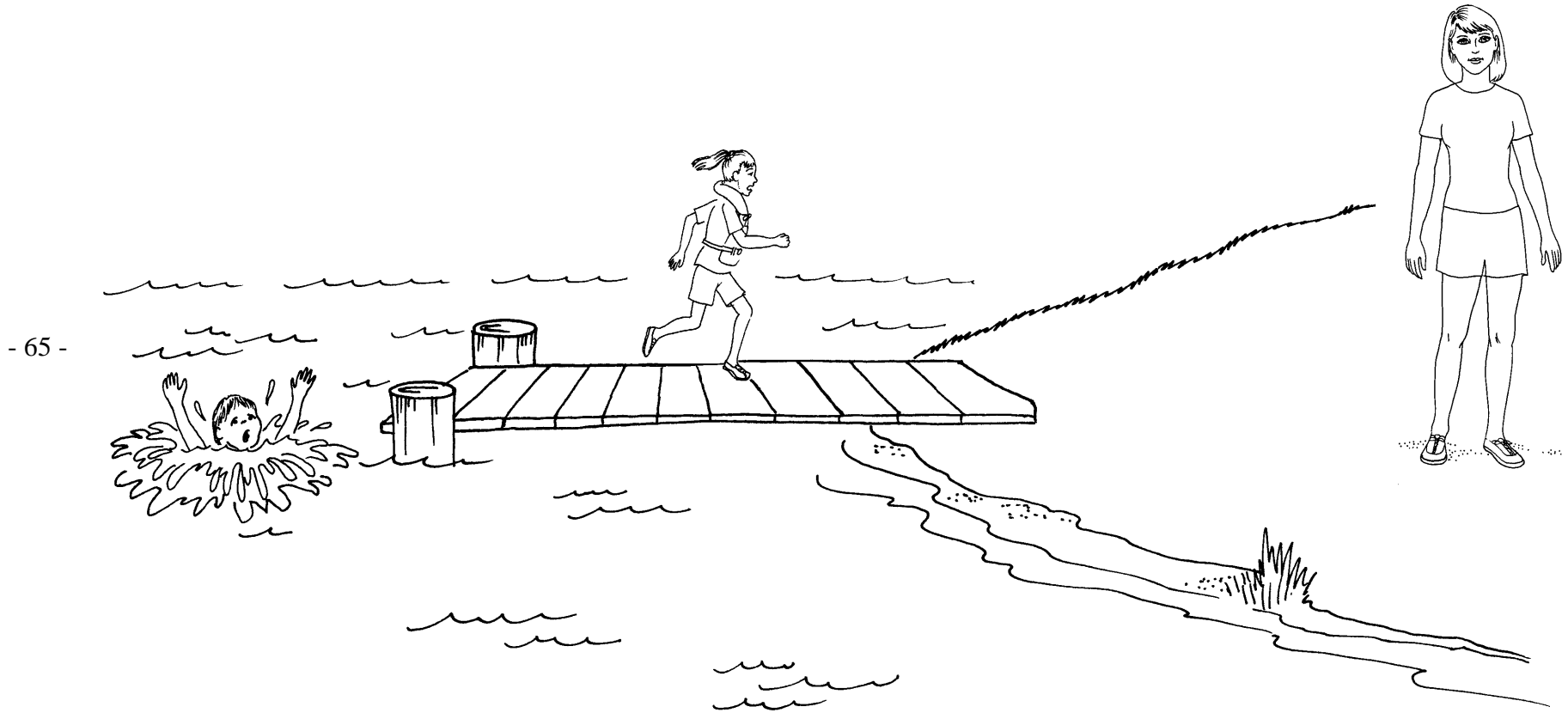


This child is not wearing a PFD on the pier. Is that sa



Water Safety Picture D Wearing a PFD can keep a kindergartner safe.

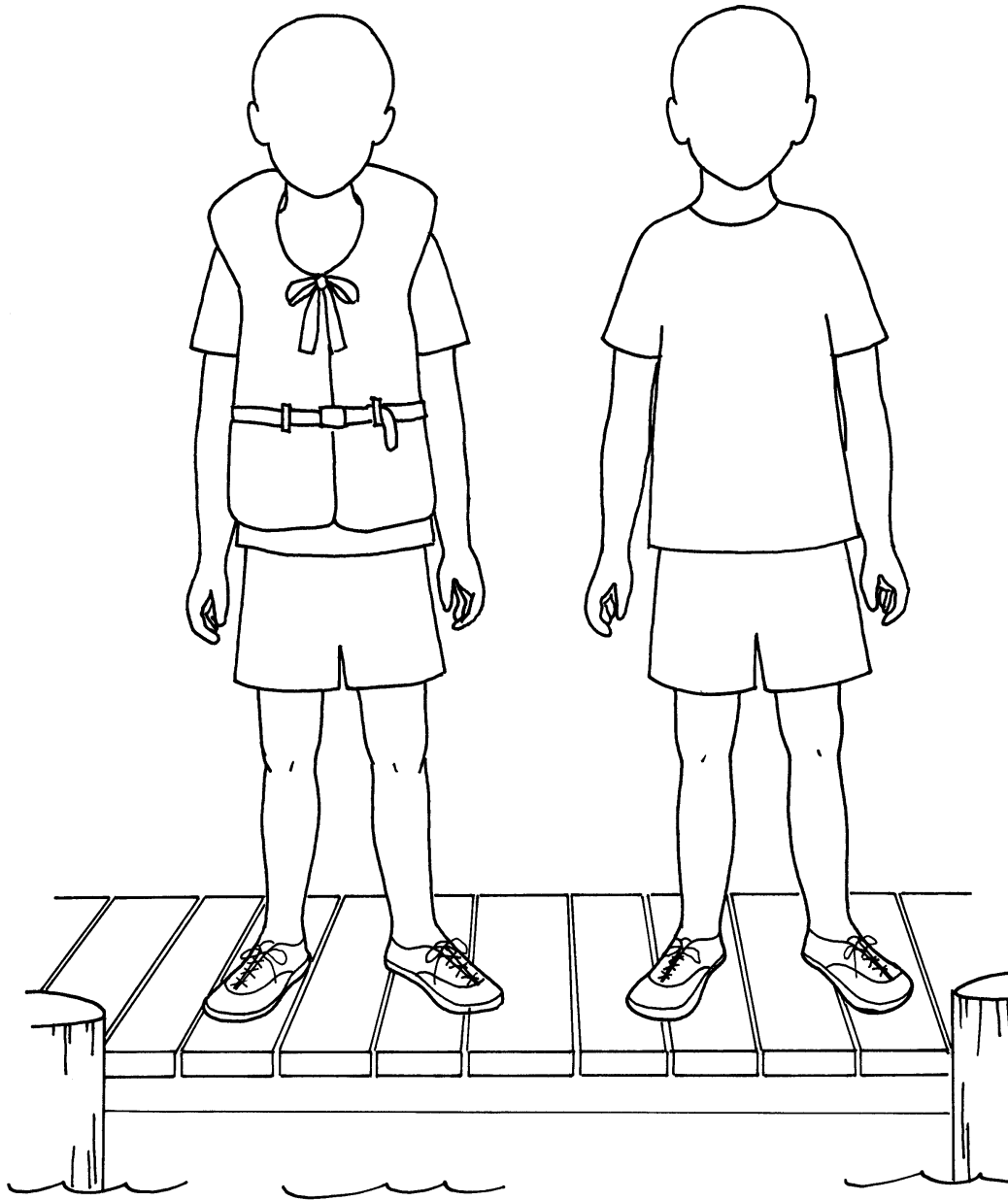
Water Safety Picture E



If someone falls into the water, run and get help to help them.

Supplement E

Safety Sense



**Draw a happy face
on the safe student.
Color this student
to look like you.**