



**PHOENIX
CHILDREN'S**
Hospital

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CONTACT:

Tiffany Isaacson
(480) 292-8774 office
(480) 510-0965 (cell)
tisaacson@phoenixchildrens.com

Two Kids Drown, Three Nearly Drown in 14 Days – Safety Experts Fear Deadly Swimming Season
Water Safety Day 2007 is Critical Effort to Instruct Youth How to Stay Safe Around Water

PHOENIX, Ariz. (March 14, 2007) – A Glendale boy remains in critical condition after nearly drowning this weekend. To date, in March, two children have drowned, and three have nearly drowned. In 2007, there have been 11 water-related incidents involving children. Experts say water safety efforts are critical.

“It’s a tragedy to start swimming season with this many drownings, and near drownings,” said Tiffany Isaacson, Water Safety Coordinator for Water Watchers at Phoenix Children’s Hospital. “Taking the right steps now can save a life.”

Water Watchers at Phoenix Children’s Hospital educates the community’s youngest – teaching nearly 1300 Valley first graders how to stay safe around water at the eighth annual Valley Toyota Dealer’s **Water Safety Day**, also presented by SRP Safety Connection, on **Tues., March 27, from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Mesa Community College**, 1833 W. Southern Ave., Mesa, 85202.

Water Safety Day includes:

- **Water safety shows in swimming pool** featuring **Dara Torres**, the first American swimmer to compete in four Olympics
- **Fire trucks, helicopters, ambulances, and public safety workers** from across Maricopa County
- **Build-A-Reminder workshops** with La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries, which will allow children to take home crafty reminders of water safety lessons
- **Singing firefighter show**
- **Magic and puppetry show**
- **Kid Zone** carnival area

Water Safety Day is part of a seven-week elementary school curriculum, beginning and ending with lessons in the classroom. To see the curriculum used by the children, search for “Water Watchers” on the Hospital’s website.

Phoenix Children’s Hospital is Arizona’s leader in pediatric care and is one of the 10 largest free-standing children’s hospitals in the nation. The most comprehensive array of pediatric specialists in the State practice at this one organization. The outstanding clinical expertise, as well as high patient volume, and an unwavering commitment to caring only for children, all contribute to Children’s leadership position. For information about Phoenix Children’s, visit the Hospital’s website at www.phoenixchildrens.com.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Early morning media spots are available beginning at 4:30 a.m.