Super Safe Comics

Featuring Captain Super Safe in

What's Under the Water

Connecticut Children's Medical Center

FREE US
FREE CAN
4 JUNE

Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

Kohl's Tween Safe Program
A message from the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection:

At the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) we are working hard to encourage families to get outside and enjoy the outdoors.

We offer a tremendous system of 107 state parks and 32 forests. We even have a program called “No Child Left Inside,” which offers special opportunities for outdoor activities. More details are available at www.ct.gov/dep/nochildleftinside.com.

At DEP we believe there is nothing better for the health and well being of youngsters and adults - than spending time outdoors. And we know that while you are out there, your appreciation and concern for nature and the environment will grow.

When it comes to water resources, Connecticut is gifted with an extraordinary number of outstanding lakes, ponds and rivers, in addition to the beauty of Long Island Sound. So get out there and enjoy - but please remember to obey all safety rules and common sense practices.

When boating, everyone on board should always wear a life jacket. When swimming, swim only in designated swim areas, know your limits, and children should be closely watched by a responsible adult. Finally, alcohol and outdoor recreation on the water simply don’t mix.

We appreciate the efforts of our many partners, including the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center, to spread the word about water safety and we hope you spend time this season on Connecticut’s waters.

The Author
Kevin Borrup wrote this comic series to help educate children and parents on childhood safety issues while still having fun. He has worked at the Injury Prevention Center since 2004, helping to keep kids safe and injury free!

The Illustrator
Scott DaRos is an illustrator and animator who is best known for his work in stop-motion animation and comics. For further information on the illustrator go to: www.scottdaros.com

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Angel, it’s too crowded here. I’m going to the river for a swim. Do you want to come?

No, I’m having fun here.

See you later.

Wait, should you tell your dad?

Naah, he won’t care if I go. He’s busy reading.
Aren't you Jessie's dad? You should be watching Jessie, not reading.

But there's a lifeguard. Do you see Jessie?
No...oh no! Where is she?!

Jessie left, she went to the river by herself.

We had better go after her, she could get herself into a lot of trouble. Come on kids.
It sure is hot out, anyone want a bottle of water?

No, I just want to find Jessie.
Jessie, wait! Stop!
Hey everyone! Want to use the swing with me?

Jessie, I was worried about you. Why did you leave the pool area without talking to me?
You looked like you were enjoying your magazine, I didn’t want to bother you.

Jessie, I’m sorry that I wasn’t watching you. It won’t happen again. And you need to remember our rules. You should never leave the pool or any other place without asking me first.

Listen Jessie, you also broke another very important rule, you came here to go swimming alone without a buddy. If something had happened to you, nobody would have been here to help you.
Well, I’ll be your buddy Jessie. We can use the swing and go swimming in the river together!

Not so fast Malcolm, it might not be safe.
We don't know what is under the surface of the water, or how deep it is.

It looks deep to me...

No. Captain Super Safe is right. What if there's some junk under the water like an old refrigerator? Or maybe it's shallow and not deep? There could be more rocks, just like the ones that we can see above the water.
I didn't think of that. Someone could get really hurt if they landed on something just under the water.
What if we want to go swimming in the river?

Is it ever safe to swim there?

Sure, but you need to go with an adult who knows the river. It's also a good idea for you to wear a life jacket when you play in or near an open body of water like a river.

What's a life jacket?

This is a life jacket. People wear them as a safety device to keep them floating above the water.

But I can swim really well, I don't need one.
Jessie, even the strongest swimmers use life jackets. Currents in a river or ocean are stronger than even the best swimmers.

What's a current?

A current is the force of water as it moves down to the sea. The current can be so strong in some places that even the strongest swimmers are forced downstream away from the river's edge!

Malcolm, come on let's get back to the pool. We don't have to worry about currents there.

OK, let's go.
Thanks for your help Captain Super Safe. I'll keep an eye on Jessie now that I know how important it is.

Great, then my job is done.

Just one more thing before you go, I'm feeling a little bit hot and I think I might be getting a sunburn. Could I get some of that water and sunblock?

Here you go. Now you are thinking.
COLORING PAGE

WHAT'S UNDER THE WATER

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CAN YOU FIND THEM ALL?

Captain Super Safe needs your help to find the objects pictured below.

- 10 Bottles of water
- 9 Sunglasses
- 8 Life jackets
- 7 Ice cream cones
- 6 Bike helmets
- 5 Tubes of sunblock
- 4 Symbols
- 3 Laptops
- 2 Sets of flippers
- 1 Octopus

Tips

- You should always have an adult watch you when you swim. Never go into the water without an adult watching you.
- Never swim alone, swim with a buddy.
- Young swimmers should wear a life jacket when playing near or in rivers, oceans, or even the backyard pool.
- Swim where there is a lifeguard.
- For more information on safe places to swim in Connecticut, go to www.ct.gov/dep and type “swimming” into the DEP’s search bar.

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