

## Fancy a swim?

### Activity sheet – The drowning problem (cards)

Wherever someone is in, on or near water, the potential for drowning exists.	About 250 people die at inland water sites each year.	More than half of the people who drown can swim.
Competent swimmers or those acclimatised to cold may be able to get out of the water alive, although they may simply take longer to drown.		A person in difficulties in the water can never rely upon being rescued.
Some rivers and streams contain high levels of bacteria from sewage contamination.	Weak or non-swimmers may survive for only a few seconds in cold, deep or fast flowing water.	The risk of death due to drowning is 0.8 per 100 000 people in the UK each year.
The coastal and inland waters of the UK remain cold throughout the year, even during the warmest summer months.	The survival time is limited for anyone who gets into difficulties in cold water.	Coastal and inland waters are often deep and frequently have strong currents.