

## How is your child evaluated in Red Cross Swim Kids?

The Red Cross Swim Kids program has carefully defined performance criteria that our Water Safety Instructors follow when evaluating your child's skills and knowledge during each of the ten levels of the program. In order for children to practice and master the skills, the Instructors teach each skill for several times during a level. Our Instructors remember what it's like to be a child and use lots of positive reinforcement to encourage individual swimmers to improve their skills.

At the end of a level, the Water Safety Instructor outlines in the Red Cross Swim Kids Progress Card the skills your child has mastered and what level to register next. **To move on to the next level, your child must master each of the skills in the level they currently take.** As recognition for this accomplishment, the child is awarded a Red Cross Swim Kids completion badge. Children may also receive a Personal Best sticker to acknowledge their performance in distance or speed.

**It is important to remember that each swimmer advances at his/her own pace.** Not completing a level the first time, or even the second time, simply means there are important skills to continue to improve upon. Success in swimming lessons comes in many different forms – learning new skills, increasing confidence, and gaining a feeling of accomplishment.

## How to support your child's accomplishments?

When your child completes a new level of the Red Cross Swim Kids program, their personal achievement is rewarded with a badge and this recognition will motivate your child even further. The badge that your child received means "I did it" and also "I can do more".

**Here are some ideas for celebrating your child's accomplishment by giving this meaningful item the place it deserves:**



*Sew the badge(s) on your child's favourite towel*



*Add the badge(s) to your child's swim/sports bag or school backpack*



*Put the badges into the scrapbook*



*Mount on frame together with a swim photo of your child\**



*\*Some children will really value a photo with their Instructor. Check with your pool and instructor about any policies on photography.*