

Pre-School Framework Duckling Outcomes

The Swim England Pre-School Framework is the first stage of the Swim England Learn to Swim Programme. It promotes early water confidence and basic motor skills and underpins Stages 1-7.

It is linked to the early years foundation stage for child development (the government-set standards for the learning, development and care of children from birth to five years old), which operators are encouraged to deliver in a fun, friendly environment.

The Duckling Awards are suitable for swimmers who are old enough to follow basic instructions with the support of an adult and who can move independently in the water. They promote increased independence and water confidence to help prepare swimmers for Learn to Swim Stages 1-7. There are four Duckling Awards to achieve. These are available to purchase from the Swim England shop: shop.swimming.org.

Duckling Award 1

Outcomes

By completing this Award, with floatation equipment and/or support, learners will be able to:

1. Make a supervised safe entry with adult support if required.
2. Float on back with adult support behind the head without floatation equipment.
3. Blow bubbles at the water surface.
4. Wet the head without submersion.
5. Kick 5 metres on back with adult support.
6. Travel without adult support for 2 metres to a floating object.
7. Enter the pool, rotate and return to the side with adult support.
8. Exit the water safely with minimal adult support.

Duckling Award 2

Outcomes

By completing this Award, with floatation equipment and/or support, learners will be able to:

1. Make a sitting entry with adult support if required.
2. Rotate 180 degrees either using a log roll or an upright position, using floatation equipment and without adult support.
3. Submerge the face with confidence and without force under adult supervision.
4. Blow an object for a distance of 2 metres.
5. Travel 3 metres using arms and/or legs without adult support.
6. Move 5 metres along the rail or wall without adult support.

7. Enter the pool, rotate and return to the side with minimal adult support.
8. Exit the water safely with minimal adult support.

Duckling Award 3

Outcomes

By completing this Award, with floatation equipment and/or support, learners will be able to:

1. Make a supervised jump to an adult with or without support.
2. Float on the front or back without adult support.
3. Push off on the front or back in a streamlined shape from a supporting adult.
4. Blow bubbles with the mouth and nose underwater.
5. Travel 5 metres on the front to the side of the pool without adult support.
6. Kick 5 metres on the front holding a float (the adult may hold the other end of the float).
7. Enter the pool, rotate and return to the side without adult support.
8. Climb out of the water with adult support if required.

Duckling Award 4

Outcomes

By completing this Award, with floatation equipment and/or support, learners will be able to:

1. Jump into the water unaided, but supervised.
2. Perform a mushroom or star float.
3. Rotate 360 degrees either using a log roll or an upright position.
4. Push and glide achieving a streamlined position on the front or back.
5. Submerge completely.
6. Travel 10 metres on the front or back, without adult support.
7. Jump into the water, turn around, swim back to the point of entry and hold on to the side or rail.
8. Climb out of the water with adult support if required.