

ACTIVITY 3.1 - FLOTATION DEVICES

OBJECTIVE: Discover, through the English program, the various types of flotation devices and which safe behaviours should be adopted when being near bodies of water.

ACTIVITY 3.1.1 - DISCUSSION

Time required: 5-10 minutes

Competency: To communicate verbally

Part 1: Watch the "*Je l'ai. Je le porte.*" video (in French only).

Part 2: Discuss video with students.

ACTIVITY 3.1.2 – READING COMPREHENSION

Time required: 30 minutes

Competency: To read various texts.

Part 1: Read the "Flotation devices" text.

Part 2: Ask reading comprehension questions.

ACTIVITY 3.1.3 – WRITING EXERCISE

Time required: 30 minutes or more (depending on the text length required by the teacher)

Competency: To write various texts.

Writing exercise: Finish the story. It must include a happy ending.

ACTIVITY 3.1.1 - DISCUSSION

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Watch the "*Je l'ai. Je le porte.*" video included in the documentation package.
(3.1.1 Video) (French version only for the moment).
- The teacher asks students what they think is the message of this video.
- The class can discuss specific life stories they have lived that are related to the topic.
- The teacher can ask which students always wear a flotation device when they are near, in or on water.

Text for activity 3.1.2



FLOTATION DEVICES

It is primordial to wear a flotation device when you are near, in or on water. For the flotation device to be safe, you need to know how to properly use it.

I have it
I wear it



LIFEJACKET OR PFD?

LIFEJACKET	PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE (PFD)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lifejackets are orange, red or yellow, so it is easier to see the person wearing it. They have better buoyancy than the PFDs. One of their best features is that they can turn an unconscious person onto his/her back in the water, ensuring that this person's face stays out of the water. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PFDs come in a variety of colors. However, bright colors are strongly recommended to ensure better visibility. PFDs have been designed to be more comfortable so they can be worn at all times. There are several types of PFDs that have been designed for specific activities (windsurfing, kayak, canoe, waterskiing, etc.). 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These safety devices must always be well adjusted so that they do not move back up past the ears. A pea-less, non-metal whistle should be attached to the flotation device. 	

WHAT SHOULD YOU REMEMBER WHEN CHOOSING A PFD?

First of all, you need to consider the type of activity you will be doing.

Secondly, the PFD's size must be appropriate to your physical features, so it is important to read the labels to find out each style's specific details.

Finally, you need to make sure your PFD is certified. Make sure your flotation device has an approval label from:

- [Transport Canada](#);
- [Canadian Coast Guard](#);
- or
- [Fisheries and Oceans Canada](#).

MAINTENANCE

Every flotation device must be inspected before and after each season to ensure it is not worn-out or damaged. A flotation device that is torn or in poor condition is not considered appropriate for using.

When inspecting a flotation device, seams, fabrics, straps, belts and buckles must be verified. Long sun exposure and storing in poor conditions can deteriorate the foam inside the PFD and its external components.

Name: _____

Group: _____

ACTIVITY 3.1.2 - READING COMPREHENSION

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the "Flotation devices" text and answer the following questions. Use the text for help!

1. Which flotation device is designed to be worn at all times?

2. What are the safest colors for a flotation device?

3. What does PFD mean?

4. What are the three things you must verify when buying a PFD?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

5. A flotation device must be certified by at least one of the three recognized organizations. Which organizations are these?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

6. True or false?

- a. Black PFDs are available on the market. _____
- b. A PFD is made to last a lifetime. _____
- c. When it is being worn by someone, a PFD must not go higher than the chin. _____
- d. Wearing a flotation device can save someone's life. _____
- e. If someone is a good swimmer, he/she does not need to wear a flotation device. _____
- f. It is not necessary to wear a flotation device if we are on a boat. _____

7. Who am I?

- a. I am always red, yellow or orange: _____
- b. I help you stay afloat if you fall into water: _____
- c. I have to be attached to the flotation device: _____



Name: _____ Group: _____

ACTIVITY 3.1.3 – WRITING EXERCISE

INSTRUCTIONS: - Finish the story below.

- Make a happy ending to your story.

On a warm summer day, Jade and her grandfather decide to go fishing. They bring two fishing rods, fish hooks and worms. Last week, Jade learned at school that people who go on a boat should wear a flotation device. She puts on her personal flotation device and tells her grandfather he should also wear a flotation device.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

ANSWER SHEET – ACTIVITY 3.1.2 – READING COMPREHENSION

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the “Flotation devices” text and answer the following questions. Use the text for help!

1. Which flotation device is designed to be worn at all times?

Personal flotation device

2. What are the safest colors for a flotation device?

Bright colors (red, orange, yellow)

3. What does PFD mean?

Personal flotation device

4. What are the three things you must verify when buying a PFD?

- a. Consider the type of activity you will be doing
- b. Make sure the PFD’s size is appropriate
- c. Make sure the PFD is certified by one of the three recognized organizations

5. A flotation device must be certified by at least one of the three recognized organizations. Which organizations are these?

- a. Transport Canada
- b. Canadian Coast Guard
- c. Fisheries and Oceans Canada

6. True or false?

- a. Black PFDs are available on the market. True
- b. A PFD is made to last a lifetime. False
- c. When it is being worn by someone, a PFD must not go higher than the chin. True
- d. Wearing a flotation device can save **someone’s life**. True
- e. If someone is a good swimmer, he/she does not need to wear a flotation device. False
- f. It is not necessary to wear a flotation device if we are on a boat. False

7. Who am I?

- a. I am always red, yellow or orange: Lifejacket
- b. I help you stay afloat if you fall into water: Flotation device (PFD and lifejacket)
- c. I have to be attached to the flotation device: Pea-less, non-metal whistle