



# SAFETY AMBASSADOR NEWSLETTER



June 2010

## WELCOME, SAFETY AMBASSADORS!

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- > **Congratulations on joining our team of Safety Ambassadors.**
- > **Make sure you *stay safe* in the upcoming school holidays.**
- > **Our Children's Safety Celebration will be held on Thursday 28 October.**
- > **We'll send you more information on this celebration in upcoming newsletters.**

**Congratulations** on being appointed as a **Safety Ambassador** for your school.

You are part of a special group of around 250 student Safety Ambassadors in 70 schools throughout South Australia.

We aim to send you a **newsletter** each month. We'll give you ideas on safety messages you can spread to other students, plus resources to help you.

**Let us know what ideas you come up with to help keep you and others safe.** We can let other Safety Ambassadors know about your plans through these regular newsletters.

**Do you have a question or need help?** I can be contacted at any time by phone, fax or email.

We trust you will enjoy your time as one of our Safety Ambassadors and we look forward to working with you throughout the year.



Welcome, Safety Ambassadors

### Rona Sakko

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## WORKSHOPS AND RESOURCES



We have now completed the **3 metropolitan workshops** and we will shortly do a couple more in outlying areas.

If you missed out on attending a workshop, we will send you a show bag with further information to help you — *plus some fun stuff!*

We are also putting together a **Handbook** that is being written especially for Safety Ambassadors. *It will be bursting with ideas!* It will cover over 20 safety topics. For each topic, the handbook will include class activities and worksheets, with separate activities for the various primary school year levels.

### How will this help?

*This Handbook will make your job easy!* You simply choose which **safety topic** you want to concentrate on at the time, and all the information, activities, safety spots, newsletter articles and so forth will be there for you.

We won't have this finished in time for this year but we will be sending sections of the booklet out to you as they are completed. *So this extra help is on the way!*



## RESOURCE KIT

Each school participating in our program will now have a **Safety Ambassador Resource Kit**.

This would have been sent to you either last year or more recently if your school has only just joined.

This Kit is for the use of students in their time as Safety Ambassadors.

*It needs to be available for future Ambassadors so please make sure it is kept where you can easily find it.*

It is very important that these kits do not get lost or given away as we do not have the funds to keep replacing them. *Thank you for understanding.*

Included in the envelope with this newsletter is a DVD, **Living with Water**. This is to be added to the Kit.

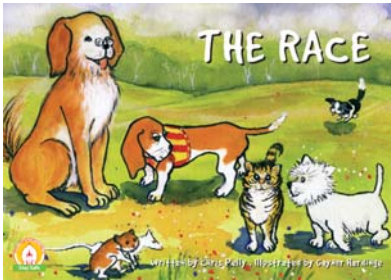
The DVD is about water safety for young children, and there are many safety tips as well as how to perform CPR. You might like to show parts of this to junior primary

classes, for example *Water safety around the home*.

Contents of the Safety Ambassador Resource Kit should now be:

1. **The Race Story Book**
2. **Dealing with Danger book**
3. **Living with Water DVD**

Please make sure you have these 3 items in your kit and we will send further resources along the way.



**“The Resource Kit needs to be available for future Ambassadors so please make sure it is kept where you can easily find it.”**

## INTRODUCING SAFE T HOUND

**Safe T Hound** is our adorable mascot.

He goes out to schools or community events to help spread the word about safety.

Safety Ambassador schools have priority with bookings for Safe T Hound to come to their schools.

It is best if Safe T Hound comes to an assembly rather than to individual classes.

If you would like him to visit your school, it is best give us a few weeks' notice plus an option of 2 or 3 dates.

Also, it would help if an Ambassador could be the one to jump into the

costume as we often don't have an extra volunteer to bring along.



## ACTIVITIES BY THE MONTH

Ask your teacher if your school can be a **Safety Assist location**. This means that anyone who is lost or hurt or feeling unsafe can go to the front office and ask for help.

Have a **Safety Spot** in each school newsletter.

At every **school assembly**, speak to the students on a safety message.

**JULY**



Place some **Safety Assist brochures** in the front office for parents.

Put up a **Stay Safe poster** in each classroom so all the students can read the safety messages.

**AUGUST**



Ensure your teacher knows what safety work you are doing as you might qualify for an **award** later in the year.





## FREE STUFF!!

To help you spread safety messages to other students in your school, we have some **FREE gear** that you can order.

### Stay Safe Posters

Safe T Hound is holding balloons, each of which features an important safety message. You would have received one of these in your show bag from the workshops. You could put up one in each classroom.

### Bookmarks and Stickers

If you give a presentation

to a class, you might like to leave each student with a bookmark and a sticker to remind them of the Safety Assist sign should they need help.

### Safety Brochures

You would also have a set of our 5 safety brochures. There might be times when you could give out some of these brochures to students. For example, when a large public event like The Show is coming up, you could distribute *Stay Safe at Public*

Events brochures to remind everyone of the need to plan beforehand to stay safe.

### Competition Prizes

If you decide to run a colouring-in or poster competition, we can supply little prizes for you to present to the winning entries.

*Simply let us know what you need and we'll send it out to you through the school courier.*



## SAFETY SPOT

This is one idea for a **Safety Spot**. There will be lots of other ideas that you can think of for safety messages to include in your school newsletter;



### Safety at Home

**Never** say your name when you answer the phone.

**Never** tell the person on the phone that you are home alone.

**Never** open the door to anybody you do not know.



Try to feature a **Safety Spot** in each school newsletter.

## SAFETY AMBASSADORS IN THE SCHOOL YARD

Try to wear your **Safety Ambassador badge** every day at school.

You could introduce yourself at a school assembly so all the students know that you are a Safety Ambassador and that you want to help everyone to stay safe.

Discuss with your teacher your role as a Safety Ambassador.

If children have a problem while in the school grounds at lunch time or recess, and they cannot see a teacher around, they could look for a Safety Ambassador.

You don't have to solve their problem. Simply ask what is wrong and find a teacher for help.

*It's another way that you can help everyone in your school to stay safe.*





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### Just for you!

Included with this newsletter is a little pack of **post-it notes** for each Safety Ambassador. This is a small thank-you to say that we appreciate your efforts in helping to keep your school community safe.

The sticky notes include the **Safety Assist logo** and the important message:

**Lost? Hurt? Feeling unsafe?**

**Look for the Safety Assist sign for help.**

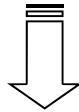
They also include the Safer Communities web site address where you can look for other safety information.



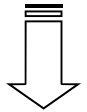
**We're on the Web!**  
[www.safercommunities.asn.au](http://www.safercommunities.asn.au)

### MESSAGE FOR PARENTS

More **Safety Assist places** around your school will help to keep everyone safer. Encourage parents to sign up to be a Safety Assist location. This is a sample article you might like to put in your school newsletter, or write your own message for parents.



*Need an electronic version of the article? Simply give us a call.*



### MESSAGE FOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

We are the Safety Ambassadors at our school and we are trying to make our area safer for everyone.

*Can you help by applying to have your house registered as a **Safety Assist** location?*

**Safety Assist** (which has replaced *Safety House*) is a voluntary network of approved residences, offices, shops, public buildings and public transport that display the **Safety Assist** sign as an indication to people of all ages that reliable help is available.

The problem could range from being lost, injured, bullied, frightened or feeling unsafe to needing

to contact road service or call for emergency services.

Recent additions to the **Safety Assist** network include all metropolitan and rural National Bank branches and Surf Life Saving beach patrol bases.

**We need many more Safety Assist premises around our school.**

The occupants of **Safety Assist** premises are not expected to solve the problem but will contact police, ambulance or other appropriate agency as the situation requires. You do not invite strangers into your house. The person seeking help will wait outside your door while you call for assistance.

Please consider becoming **Safety Assist** members. *Remember ... there are no restrictions on the times that residents are required to be available at the premises. Businesses are also encouraged to join.*

*This is a way for you to do something positive to help make our school area safer.*

Call **Safer Communities Australia** on 8373 0818 for application forms and further information, or check out the web site at: [safercommunities.asn.au](http://safercommunities.asn.au)

**Safety Assist**

**Sign of a safer community.**

