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Local Parents Invited to Water Safety Class At Connections Education Center

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla., Nov. 14, 2022 -- More children ages 1 to 4 years drown in Florida than in any other state, according to the [Florida Department of Health](#). For children with autism, drowning is the [top cause of death](#).

That's why two local organizations are teaming up to present a free class where parents and caregivers can learn the latest strategies for keeping children safe near water.

This free program -- called the ABCD's of Water Safety -- will be held Thursday, Nov. 17, 2023, 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Connections Education Center in West Palm Beach. Attendees can also choose to attend remotely via Google Meet.

Experts from both organizations will teach parents:

- important safeguards to lower the chance of drowning
- how to handle a water emergency
- why you should never rely on arm floaties
- and much more

Parents will also learn how to access a voucher for swim lessons from the Drowning Prevention Coalition.

"In Palm Beach County, we're surrounded by water. Even if you don't have a pool or live near the ocean, it's essential for your child to learn to swim," says Katie Wentley, Director of Health, Wellness & Aquatics at Connections Education Center. "Children can drown in a matter of minutes. They must learn how to stay safe around water and how to get to safety in a water emergency."

Connections Education Center is a local charter school that serves children with autism. The school includes adaptive swim lessons for every student as part of their curriculum.

Learn more about this event and register for free here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/787645225635614>

About Connections

Connections is a nonprofit educational center that delivers high-quality, specialized instruction to students with autism in Palm Beach County. They serve students ages 3-22 years and offer an innovative program for young adults with autism. Learn more at connectedpb.com.

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