

# A GUIDE FOR PARENTS & CAREGIVERS

## Selecting a Learn-to-Swim Program



### A GOOD LEARN TO SWIM PROGRAM

**1**

#### IS SAFETY FOCUSED

- GROUPS students according to appropriate student teacher ratios\*, age, and ability level.
- ENSURES facilities are safe and staff are vigilant and prepared for an emergency.

#### IS CHILD FOCUSED

- LISTENS to you and the student.
- NURTURES your student's diverse strengths and abilities throughout their development.

**2**

**3**

#### IS ENCOURAGING AND NURTURING

- ENCOURAGES students with motivating awards and praise.
- PROVIDES an interesting, creative, and fun learning environment.

#### IS INCLUSIVE

- LEADS with inclusive, organized, and professional management.
- HAS OPPORTUNITY for advancement & support for diverse groups of swimmers.

**4**

**5**

#### INCLUDES PARENTS & CAREGIVERS

- ENCOURAGES parental involvement, in best practice, a caregiver is able to watch the lesson.
- EDUCATES participants and caregivers on the learn to swim process and water safety.

#### DEMONSTRATES PROFESSIONALISM

- Is PROUD to show off their program, facilities, and inclusiveness.
- MAINTAINS national memberships where appropriate.

**6**

**7**

#### MAINTAINS QUALITY

- MAINTAINS water, pool surroundings, and access points.
- QUALIFIES and TRAINS teachers.

[watersafetyusa.org](http://watersafetyusa.org)

\*Best practice for young or beginner level swimmers, without a caregiver in the water with them, is an instructor to student ratio of 1:4 or fewer and would be no more than 1 instructor to 6 students.