LEARNING OUTCOME: I know some of the dangers near and in the water (hidden and unhidden)
INTRODUCTION

This activity works as a starter activity to a longer water safety session. It prompts discussion and encourages children to think about some of the things they would expect to find at a beach or inland waterside location. It is also a gentle introduction to some of the more hazardous items they could find in either setting.

DELIVERY

• In advance of the session, print out and laminate the relevant picture cards provided to put into the beach bags. You can also collect a range of items from your chosen waterside location for children to handle which build on the sensory nature of this activity by allowing them to explore different textures. Here are some suggestions for items you might like to add:
  - Pot of sand, shells, barnacles, dried seaweed, pebbles, plastic spade, plastic cutlery, ice lolly stick, used plastic bottle, stones, fishing line / net

• You may also want to introduce images of more hazardous items to the bag. These have been provided on a separate picture card sheet for you to decide which images to include. Options have been given for both beach and inland water environments.

• Working as a whole group, or if resources allow, small groups, let children select, handle and study the item they pull out of the bag. They should share with the group what it is before allowing other children to investigate it.

• Discuss each item in turn, asking children where they might expect to find the item, what it feels like (if it is something tactile you have added to the bag) and whether they have seen this at the beach / waterside before.

• If hazard cards have been added to your bag, discuss each of these in turn as they are pulled from the bag. Talk about how each one could pose a hazard and ways you might prevent yourself being harmed. For example, avoid broken glass injuries and cuts by sharp stones by wearing beach shoes, help avoid sunburn by wearing a sunhat and lotion, avoid stray dogs by sticking with a grown up etc.

EXTENSION ACTIVITY

To promote better understanding of sun safety, create your own extension of the 1980s Slip, Slap, Slop campaign with your children. Information about the campaign can be found at en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slip-Slop-Slap and original videos for the campaign can be accessed on YouTube.