

# National Dam Safety Awareness Day – Outreach Ideas for Children

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This document contains National Dam Safety Awareness Day outreach ideas and activities for children. Share your stories and/or photos with the #DamSafetyDay hashtag on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn.

## Outreach Ideas for Children

1. **Dam Safety Awareness art or poster contest.** Suggested themes include illustrating different types of dams (earthen vs. concrete) or contents of safety/evacuation kits. Winning artwork could be displayed on a local website or in a city's town hall. The winning child or children could also get a tour of a dam or an operations center. Check out the [City of Austin's Turn Around Don't Drown](#) poster campaign as an example.
2. **Dam Safety Awareness coloring activity.** Children can color in different parts of the dam, such as the flood gates, spillway, or other interesting dam features.
3. **Crossword puzzle or word find using dam terms.** This could be geared to different age groups. Older children could have more difficult crossword terms and could review background information (such as the [Living with Dams](#) brochure) prior to filling out the puzzle. Younger children could have an activity where they find terms within a word jumble.
4. **Field trip to the local dam.** Due to heightened security, the children may only be able to see the dam exterior, but they can see the benefits of the dam (e.g., provide a reservoir for drinking water) and listen to a talk from local dam officials about how the dam was built and how it works.
5. **Dam Safety restaurant coloring placemats.** Partner with local restaurants and have them hand out coloring placemats on dam safety to children when they visit the local restaurant (this could be easily paired with Activity 2).
6. **Girl/Boy Scout Dam Safety patch/badge.** Create Girl Scout and Boy Scout patch/badge program where children earn their patch/badge by completing a number of activities created depending on age group.
7. **Other kid's activities and resources.**
  - o [Association of State Dam Safety Officials Kids Activities](#)
  - o [TVA Kids – All About Dams](#)
  - o [USSD Education Website](#)
  - o [National Geographic: The Purpose of Dams](#)



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