

Swim Assessment Aid

The following chart shows the prerequisites your child must meet to register for the next level.

Under 3 years old (with parents)

Splasher	6 to 18 months
Bubbler	18 to 36 months

Level Prerequisites 3 to 5 years

Bobber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not float on their back or on their stomach, even with a bit of help. Is hesitant to put their head under water and to make bubbles.
Floater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floats on their back or on their stomach with little help. Puts their head under water and makes bubbles.
Glider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floats on their back and stomach and returns to an upright position without help. Treads water for 10 seconds. Moves independently for 10 m wearing a PFD*. Glides on their stomach independently.
Diver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jumps into deep water with assistance or while wearing a PFD*. Retrieves an object in shallow water with assistance. Swims 15 m on front and back while wearing a PFD*. Glides on back and stomach followed by kicking for 3 m. Travels 5 m using both arms and legs.
Surfer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jumps into deep water. Treads water for 10 seconds in deep water. Floats on the stomach, then rolls over and floats on the back (independently). Swims 10 m on the back and on the stomach using arms and legs.
Jumper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treads water for 30 seconds. Swims 15 m on the back and on the stomach.

Level Prerequisites 6 to 15 years

Otter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not float on their back or on their stomach. Is hesitant to put their head under water and to make bubbles. Is not able to perform a 1.5 m glide on their back or stomach.
Seal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floats on their back and on their stomach. Puts their head under water and makes bubbles. Performs a 1.5 m glide on their back and on their stomach.
Dolphin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performs a 5 m glide on their back. Performs a 2.5 m glide on their stomach with kicking. Retrieves an object in shallow water.
Swimmer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performs a 10 m glide on their back and a 5 m glide on their side. Treads water in a vertical position for 30 seconds. Dives in from a seated position.
Star 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swims underwater for 2.5 m. Swims beginner front crawl and back crawl for 15 m.
Star 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swims front crawl, back crawl, and elementary backstroke for 15 m. Demonstrates endurance in front crawl and/or back crawl for 75 m.
Star 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swims intermediate front crawl and back crawl for 25 m. Swims beginner elementary backstroke and breaststroke for 25 m. Demonstrates endurance in a chosen stroke for 100 m.
Star 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates endurance in a chosen stroke for 200 m.
Star 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swims front crawl or breaststroke with head above water for 25 m. Swims 100 m in 3 minutes or less (stroke of choice). Demonstrates endurance in a chosen stroke for 350 m.
Star 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates endurance in a chosen stroke for 500 m.



Please note that this guide is for informational purposes only. It is always best to consult a YMCA swimming instructor to determine the appropriate level. The YMCA reserves the right to assess your child's swimming abilities during their first lesson and adjust their level accordingly.