











LEVEL FIVE LESSON PLANS

Assistant Swim Teacher Award Manual Page 91-106

Pre Assessment:

Learners must demonstrate the following skills before beginning Level 5

- ✓ Relaxed Breaststroke timing demonstrating one complete Breaststroke stroke linked to another by a glide
- ✓ Demonstrate 25m Freestyle with controlled arm actions and breathing
- ✓ Demonstrate 25m Backstroke with controlled arm action and relaxed breathing

Level Five Learning Intention

To develop endurance in Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke swimming with increasingly accurate technique and to increase Water Safety awareness including safe dives.

N.B. Lessons 1-3 focus on Freestyle

Lesson 4 focus on Sidestroke

Lessons 5-6 improve Backstroke efficiency

Lessons 7-9 focus on Breaststroke Lesson 10 requires deep water

You may need to "pick and choose" different progressions for different group members as they progress.

Level Five Learning Outcomes

Learners should be able to consistently demonstrate the following criteria:

- 5.1 25m Sidestroke
- 5.2 H.E.L.P.
- 5.3 Clothed Survival
- 5.4 Group Safety Initiatives
- 5.5 50m Freestyle
- 5.6 50m Backstroke
- 5.7 50m Breaststroke

Extra and Optional Unassisted Entries for Deep Water

The following lesson plans are suggested programmes for completing the Level Five Objectives. There are many variables to take into consideration.

- Diving should only ever be taught in pools deeper than 1.2m unless supported from inside the pool.
- Teachers running lessons for 10min may have to omit some activities whereas teachers with 30min lessons may need to be creative and add further activities which enhance or support the activities suggested.
- · You may at any time extend your swimmers learning.
- Details of games and fun activities are listed in the back of the ASTA Manual.
- **Recommended group size:** 6 students, maximum 12 students.
- **Pool depth:** Between 0.8m minimum unless diving, then 1.2m minimum depending on height of student no more than chest depth for the students!
- Size of space: 15-25m mainly lane swimming format.
- Lesson duration: 10min to 30min maximum.





 Wherever possible please ensure that all equipment used is maintained and used appropriately.

Risk Management considerations: Assistant Swim Teacher Award Manual page 10 - 17

Safety management plans for your programmes must include:

- Access to 1st Aid, CPR and rescue equipment/techniques
- Supervision

Special characteristics of this ability group:

- Hair must be tied back for breathing
- Goggles should be encouraged for children swimming for 15min or more in chlorinated pools, however, see notes on organisation
- Kick boards are mentioned but any smaller buoyant object may be better
- Lane etiquette/formations should be introduced at this level
- Dry land Breaststroke leg action practices are essential
- All exercises illustrated in these plans may be repeated many times giving one clear focus or teaching point at a time

Always reinforce good practice with positive comments!

If these plans are not clear, please call your local REM!

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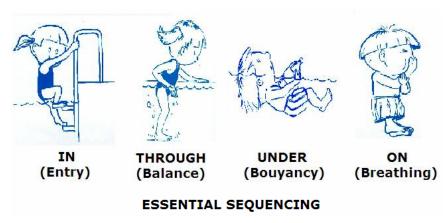
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ALWAYS REMEMBER THE FOUNDATION SKILLS







<u>Lesson 1 - 3</u>

Learning Outcomes: To develop controlled and efficient Freestyle technique with relaxed breathing over 50m

Success Criteria:

By the end of this lesson learners should be able to:

☑ Swim 50m Freestyle with controlled strokes and relaxed bilateral breathing

☑ Develop distance per stroke over 50m Freestyle

Equipment needed:

· Boards or other buoyancy equipment

Intro/Activity	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
Choice of entry appropriate	Safe controlled entry	When practising in a large
to the venue	Maintain contact with the wall until feet on the pool floor	group number students in two's
3 Person relay	RunningJumpingHoppingSwimmingKicking	Use a designated area
"Crocodiles and crabs"	 Two groups stand in a line back to back at half way When "Crabs" are called they turn to chase the "crocodiles" who are rushing to the safety of the side 	
Revision from last Level	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
Freestyle swimming 25m developing distance per stroke (DPS)	 Start in streamline Then add leg kick Then add slow, smooth, controlled arm strokes Count your strokes over the distance Aim to decrease the number of strokes over the same distance 	 Practice over 25m During each repeat try to reduce stroke count
Kick on side in Freestyle breathing position -Repeat on other side	 Right arm extended and held still, left arm over left thigh (no paddling) Back of head on right arm Kick on side aim for 15m 	 Extend practice over 25m This may mean 3 x 10m practices Encourage balance and control to maintain position on side
10 Kick "rock and roll", 1 strokes to change sides	 Kick in Freestyle breathing position Right arm extended Left arm on left thigh Back of head on right arm Relaxed breathing for 10 kicks Eyes to pool floor during 1 arm stroke Roll to breathing position with left arm lead Continue with 10 kicks and repeat process over 25m 	Encourage control and balance while kicking on side
10 Kick "rock and roll" 3 strokes to change sides	 Kick in Freestyle breathing position Right arm extended Left arm on left thigh Back of head on right arm Relaxed breathing for 10 kicks Eyes to pool floor during 3 arm strokes, roll Roll to breathing position with left arm lead Continue with 10 kicks and repeat 	Encourage control and balance while kicking on side





Swim Freestyle 25m bilateral breathing	process over 25m • Push and glide • Add leg action • 3 Smooth, controlled strokes and roll into breathing position to take a breath and continue • "1,bubbles,breathe" • Repeat	Progress to completing 50m without stopping
Game/Conclusion	Teaching Points	Equipment/Organisation
"Let go" floats with breathing N.B. keep arms and legs	Shoulders under the water Big relaxed breath in and hold with no tension	Split the class into two and take turns so they can see the different natural floating
floppy as your head moves to breathe	 "let go", "flop", "sink", into the water to discover how your body floats naturally, with all your muscles relaxed To breathe, tip face to the surface blow out and inhale quickly and resume float Encourage full body relaxation while the head moves to breathe Learners stand in a line parallel to, and 	 positions Encourage the groups to float for longer periods without tension Partners can look for small hand and feet movements during breathing and give feedback to their partner
Swimming in rough water	facing the poolside, (about 2 steps back from the wall) Using a kickboard held vertical in the water, push the board back & forward to create rough water (waves) Starting at one end of the line, learners take turns at swimming beside the poolside through the rough water	Encourage survival strokes i.e. any stroke where the arms remain under water i.e. dog paddle, side stroke or Breaststroke
Safe exit		





Lesson 4

Learning Outcomes: To introduce sidestroke

Equipment needed:

Success Criteria:

By the end of this lesson learners should be able to:

☑ Swim side stroke for 25m

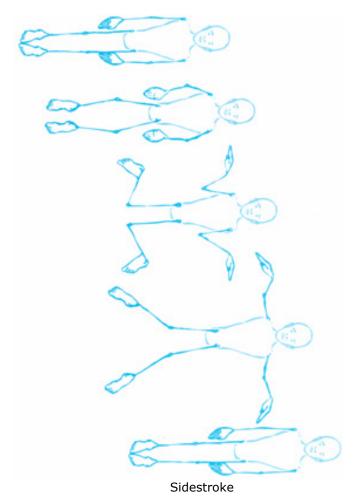
•	Boards or	other	buoyancy	equipment
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☑ Experience swimming in rough	water	
Intro/Activity	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
Choice of entry appropriate to the venue "Captains coming"	 Safe controlled entry Maintain contact with the wall until feet on the pool floor "Port, Starboard, Captains coming, Captain's daughter, climb the rigging, Man over board, scrub the decks" 	 When practising in a large group number students in two's Use a designated area Group follows directions from the teacher
Revision from last level	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
Swim Freestyle 25m bilateral breathing	 Push and glide Add leg action 3 Smooth, controlled strokes and roll into breathing position to take a breath and continue "1,bubbles,breathe" Repeat 	Progress to completing 50m without stopping
Teaching progression	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
Sidestroke Leg action - land practice is particularly valuable - practise leg action with two pieces of flotation equipment, one in leading hand, the other held on thigh -practise without flotation equipment	 On one side in a streamlined position Legs work in a scissors action, with one leg moving to front of body and other behind Immaterial whether top or lower leg opens forward Legs bend before they part and streamline as they "snap" shut Legs never cross Propulsion comes from legs closing vigorously Emphasise glide phase - not continuous actions 	Give learners plenty of space so that they do not kick each other
Sidestroke arm action -standing -walking	 From an extended glide on side, with lower arm extending beyond head, upper hand on thigh Propulsion comes from lower (leading) arm which pulls as upper arm recovers towards chin Momentum continues with the upper hand pushing towards feet while leading arm recovers to extended position "Pick an apple, put in the other hand and put it into the basket" Eyes look forward without head turning forward Lower ear in water to assist streamlining Combine arm and leg actions "As arms bend, the legs bend, then kick and glide" 	





With upper arm holding flotation equipment on thigh, practise leg action and lower arm action together	"PULL PUSH, KICK and GLIDE" Maintain body horizontal on side lower ear in the water	Try 2 complete strokes then rest, extend to any number of complete strokes
Game/Conclusion	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
Swimming in rough water Safe exit using the ladder or	 Learners stand in a line parallel to, and facing the poolside, (about 2 steps back from the wall) Using a kickboard held vertical in the water, push the board back & forward to create rough water (waves) Starting at one end of the line, learners take turns at swimming beside the poolside through the rough water 	Encourage survival strokes i.e. any stroke where the arms remain under water i.e. dog paddle, side stroke or Breaststroke



N.B. These lessons need to be supported with "classroom" discussions regarding personal survival and group survival initiatives. See ASTA Manual Page 92-99





<u>Lesson 5 - 6</u>

Learning Outcomes: To improve Backstroke efficiency over 50m and introduce the HELP and Huddle survival positions

Success Criteria:

By the end of this lesson learners should be able to:

- Swim 50m Backstroke with controlled strokes and breathing, developing distance per stroke (DPS)
- ☑ Demonstrate HELP and Huddle survival positions

Equipment needed:

- · Boards or other buoyancy equipment
- Lifejackets
- Water/fire hose
- Clean clothing (old)

☐ Demonstrate HELP and Huddle		
Intro/Activity	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
Choice of entry appropriate	Safe controlled entry	When practising in a large
to the venue	Maintain contact with the wall until feet	group number students in two's
	on the pool floor	Use a designated area
Revision from last level	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
"3-Against-one-circle-tag"	In groups of 4	
	 Learners numbers 1-3 hold hands in a 	
	circle	
	 Learner 4 runs around the outside of 	
	the circle to "tag" learner number 2	
"- "	1 and 3 try to protect 2	
"Follow the leader"	To success of 2.2 follows the successors	English at Alexan
	• In groups of 2-3 follow the movements	Encourage creativity! Above and below the surface all
	and direction of the leader	and below the surface all
Streamlining on back with		directions and tempo's
kick	Arms extended above head arms by	Extend practice over 15-25m
	ears	This may mean 3 x 10m
	Hands held in "turtles"	practices
	Tall bodies	·
	Eyes to the sky	
Streamlining on side with	Right arm extended	Extend practice over 15-25m
back kick 15-25m	Left arm on left thigh Left about day and a single to the most	This may mean 3 x 10m
-repeat on other side	 Left shoulder dry, pointing to the roof Eves looking to the roof 	practices
	Eyes looking to the roof Kick on side, small fast kicks	
	RICK OIT SIDE, SITIALITIAST RICKS	
10 Kick "rock and roll"	Start streamline kicking on right side as	Extend practice over 15-25m
	above for 10 kicks,	This may mean 3 x 10m
	Complete 3 slow, controlled arm	practices
	strokes and continue streamlined	Encourage control and balance
	kicking now on the left side and repeat	to maintain side kicking
	 Maintain eyes to the roof through 	
	kicking and stroking	
Surimming Fore Destroy	. "Up to the clay down to my thich"	Attempt FOm without stansing
Swimming 50m Backstroke	 "Up to the sky, down to my thigh" Big slow arm circles	Attempt 50m without stoppingRepeat, encouraging controlled
(Repeat, asking for focus on	Flowing, continuous movement –	movements
one teaching point at a time	as arm circles backwards, brush ear	overnenes
	with arm	
	Little finger enters water first ("pinkie")	
Teaching progression	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
H.E.L.P.	Curl-up to protect major heat-loss sites	If lifejackets are available
(Heat Escape Lessening	I.e. Head, neck armpits , sides and	ensure all fastenings firmly
Position)	groin	secured
Occasionally use hose to cool	Classroom discussion should include:	Encourage students to discover
students during this practice	Heat is lost from body to colder	their own most stable, relaxed
to simulate bad weather	surrounding water at a rate 25 times	position, experimenting with leg
 Create waves to add realism 	faster than to air of same temperature	positions to prevent rolling





"Huddle" Prior classroom "discussion" is essential • Shallow water • Creating waves and occasionally hosing students • Gradually reduce the number of buoyancy equipment being worn • "Huddle" in clothing as well as in swimwear	 Cold water moving over body accentuates rate at which heat is dispersed Emphasise wisdom of wearing a life jacket Each student should securely hold on to other student either side, e.g., arms around students' waists; ideally both arms around their neighbour's waist, link legs Emphasise relaxation, keeping still, mutual encouragement 	 Students check others for correctly fitted buoyancy equipment Watch students for signs of distress (especially eyes), e.g. being pushed down by a bigger student Use a variety of methods for propulsion when moving Experience in deep water is desirable
Try moving the huddle!		000.10
Game/Conclusion	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
Safe exit	Choice of exit appropriate for the venue	





Lesson 7 - 9

Learning Outcomes: To progressively build skills and endurance in Breaststroke and further develop personal survival techniques

Success Criteria:

By the end of this lesson learners should be able to:

- ☑ Increase efficiency in Breaststroke in order to complete longer distances comfortably
- ☑ Demonstrate a basic personal survival technique including relaxed floating and orientation over a period of 2-4 min in clothing

Equipment needed:

- Boards or other buoyancy equipment
- Clean clothing (old)

Intro/Activity	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
Choice of entry appropriate to the venue	 Safe controlled entry Maintain contact with the wall until feet on the pool floor 	When practising in a large group number students in two'sUse a designated area
Revision from last level	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
3 Person relay Partner rolling "ball floats"	 Running Swimming Kicking Hopping jumping, etc. Partner A has big relaxed breath and "Tucks" into ball float, Chin in Partner B gently presses shoulders/hips to create rocking Look for "smooth" nape of the neck Gradually increase rocking and rolling Try for a full roll either forwards, backwards or sideways 	Watch for creases in the back of the neck or any unfolding of the ball float as this indicated discomfort
Teaching progression	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
Breaststroke arm action -Standing	 Start with arms extended, shoulders under the water out in a Breaststroke streamlined position (arms extended thumbs down, backs of hands make a 'V'), eyes to the pool floor 1. Scull out to a "Y" position 2. Scull in to breathe in 3. Stretch to streamlined position and Exhale, eyes down 	Crouch down shoulders under water Repeat Encourage children to take their time Hands must not come back past their chin
-Lying in the water eyes looking at the pool floor, with small Freestyle kicks Breaststroke kick on front parallel to pool wall	 Thumbs down on scull-out, thumbs up on scull-in Arms must move simultaneously Teaching points as above Arms extended with or without float Eyes look to pool floor Breaststroke kick with closest toes touching the wall as the feet turn out and push back Return in other direction Swimmers visualise a tunnel where both feet turn out to touch either side of the tunnel 	Picture: ASTA Manual Pg 66 This activity is good for correcting "Scissor kick"
Vertical Breaststroke kick with stomach against pool wall	 "Hook" toes "Heels to bum, no knees to tum" Emphasise the "stretch and glide" "snap toes to point" 	





Breaststroke leg action on back with a board	 Lie on back and hold board over thighs Stretch and Glide (hold with a count of 4) Heels to bottom Make the hook Turn toes out Kick back with a "snap" Feet together Stretch and Glide (hold with a count of 4) 	The stretch and glide phase must be emphasised at all times Practice over 15-25m
Breaststroke kick on front arms extended	 Start shoulders under water Eyes look to pool floor Slide forward to stretch and glide, breaststroke kick to stretch and glide Stand up to breathe Repeat 	Practice up to 25m repeats
Breaststroke whole stroke timing	 Maintaining streamline, the hands scull out to the 'Y', as the head starts to lift up and forward breathe-in on the in scull, heels are drawn up to hips, then hands stretch and glide as feet "snap" together. "Glide, '1,2' in streamline, on '3' scull to the 'Y', scull-in and breathe, then kick, glide" Or "When arms bend, the legs bend then kick to a glide" Or "Do nothing on scull-out" "Do everything on scull-in" "Stretch to a glide" 	 This is best described visually, see 4.6 in the ASTA video and demonstrate to learners Extend practice over 15-25m This may mean 3 x 10m practices Develop 1 stroke, 2, strokes etc to increase distance Each whole stroke practice should be separated by a long glide in streamlined position
Survival skills for 1-2 minute in clothing Deep water is not essential for this activity	 Relaxed float for one minute without touching the pool floor Give occasional one hand signal for help Use minimal arm and leg action to conserve energy Maintain big relaxed breaths to assist flotation Students need to experiment to determine best personal survival strategy 	 Simulate exercises including scanning the horizon, using vertical rotation Practise in shorts and t-shirt
Game/Conclusion	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
"Whirlpool"	 Learners spread out in a big circle around the edge of the teaching space They all run in a clockwise direction until the teachers signal, then they change direction and try to run against the current 	
Safe exit	Choice of exit appropriate for the venue	

N.B. Deep water is <u>essential</u> to cover the activities in this lesson





Lesson 10

Learning Outcomes: To develop further personal survival techniques

Success Criteria:

By the end of this lesson learners should be able to:

☑ Demonstrate sculling and personal survival skills and deep water entries

Equipment needed:

- Boards or other buoyancy equipment
- Lifejackets

water entries		
Intro/Activity	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
Choice of entry appropriate to the venue	Safe controlled entry Maintain contact with the wall until feet on the pool floor	When practising in a large group number students in twosUse a designated area
"Current affairs"	 In groups of 3 or more in each relay Each leader swimmer holds a newspaper On teachers signal: '1' swims to '2' keeping the paper dry and hands it to number '2' like a baton Repeat 	 Use the designated space available Newspaper
Revision from last level	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
Sculling challenge in deep water	 First on back then on front, Try sculling and moving for a distance of 5-10m with no leg action 	NB movement occurs in the direction that the back of the hand is facing
	 Try sculling both head first and feet first on both front and back "Thumbs down on sweep-out, thumbs up on sweep-in, maintain pressure on water with hands" 	
Teaching progression	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
Step in entry	 To be used in clear water when water depth is known and bottom is free of obstacles Watch surface 2-3m away to avoid falling forward Step gently, as if stepping down stairs Step not jump, back foot follows naturally 	Begin with entry point as near as possible to water level Gradually increase height above water
Compact entry	 1m minimum height drop chin tucked in, one hand over nose and mouth Elbow by side, free arm wrapped around, holding forearm Step gently, allowing the following leg to catch up before entry, i.e. "not a jump" 	Practise entry Increase height of entry if possible
Lifejacket entry	 Once underwater tuck legs to stop downward movement 1m Minimum height drop Ensure lifejacket is fitted correctly Chin in, both hands pull down on lifejacket collar, elbows by sides Step gently, as for compact entry, legs come together to streamline body on entry 	 Practise entry Increase height of entry if possible





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Safe dive	 Check for safe depth Check for obstacles, discuss what objects may be hidden under water Chin should be tucked in Palms down, one hand on top of other Streamlined body position, arms over ears Head and body follow fingers Stretch to streamlined position and turn fingers to surface once in water 	 Practise dive Increase height of entry if possible
Survival skills for 2 - 4 minutes in clothing Deep water is essential for this activity	 Relaxed float for 2 - 4 minutes without touching the pool floor Give occasional one hand signal for help Use minimal arm and leg action to conserve energy Maintain big relaxed breaths to assist flotation Students need to experiment with taking clothes off (see pg 96 ASTA Manual) 	 Simulate exercises including scanning the horizon or using vertical rotation Practise in shorts and t-shirt
Game/Conclusion	Teaching Points	Organisation/Equipment
Game/Conclusion "Let Go" floats in deep water Deep water is essential for this activity	 Shoulders under the water Big relaxed breath in and hold with no tension "let go", "flop", "sink", into the water to discover how your body floats naturally, with all your muscles relaxed 	 Split the class into two and take turns so they can see the different natural floating positions Encourage the groups to float for longer periods without
"Let Go" floats in deep water Deep water is essential for this	 Shoulders under the water Big relaxed breath in and hold with no tension "let go", "flop", "sink", into the water to discover how your body floats 	 Split the class into two and take turns so they can see the different natural floating positions Encourage the groups to float