# Oscar Otter

RIVER SAFETY & EDUCATION

WRITTEN BY BILL DAVIS
ILLUSTRATED BY LENA PODESTA

SPONSORED BY





### 1. Let someone know before you go!



### Acknowledgements

The author would like to extend his sincere gratitude to Jen Miller, Rescue 3 International, and Lena Podesta for their hard work and dedication in making it possible to complete this program, and for just believing in the program and it's potential. A special thanks to Rita Dane for her technical assistance with the lesson plan, and my appreciation to all the family, friends, and peers that offered encouragement along the way.

### **About the Author**

The author worked as a fire fighter, rescue specialist, and rescue instructor. He taught flood and river rescue extensively through Rescue 3 International, both in the United States and abroad. Having been on many rescues and recoveries during his career, he felt a strong need to educate people about the dangers associated with moving water. He envisioned a program to begin educating children at an early age, with knowledge they could grow with, and that would ultimately have an impact on the number of water related fatalities in years to come. In 2008, he was forced to retire from firefighting and rescue instruction due to a debilitating disability. That same year he was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award for contributions to Rescue 3 and the rescue industry. However, even after retirement, he never lost sight of that vision to develop this program, and this work is the culmination of that goal.

### **About the Artist**

Lena Podesta works as an illustrator and animator in beautiful, soggy Portland, Oregon. She loves drawing, a good story, and swimming (safely of course). Find out more about Lena at www. lenapodesta.com or follow her on twitter @lenapodesta

### **About Rescue 3 International**

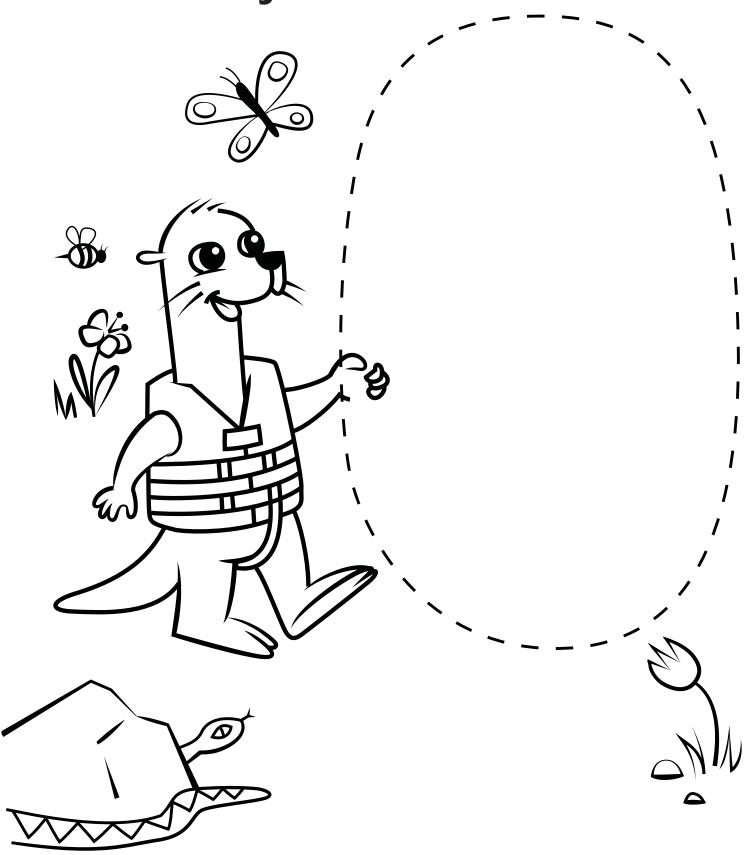
Rescue 3 International is the world's leader in technical rescue curriculum development and accreditation with over 1500 certified instructors in 52 countries around the world. Over the past 35 years Rescue 3 instructors have trained over 250,000 students, many of whom are Professional Rescuers, River and Mountain Guides, and Military Personnel.

For more information on Rescue 3, visit www.rescue3.com.

## Oscar says:

- Let someone know before you go
- 2. Don't go alone when you leave your home
- 3. You otter be in a good PFD
- 4. Reach from the beach and DON'T jump in if someone can't swim.
- 5. You otter scout before you go out
- 6. You otter scram if you see a dam
- 7. On your back to swim if you go in
- 8. You otter not stand until you're on land

# 2. Don't go alone when you leave your home!



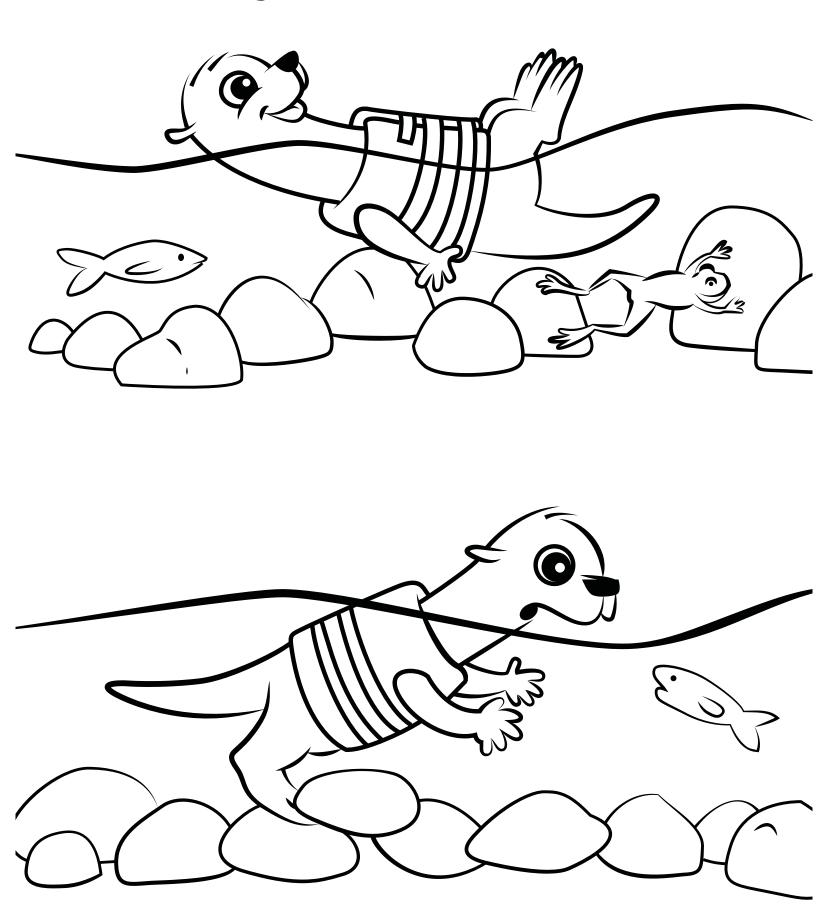
Draw a grown-up in the circle to go with Oscar.

## 3. You otter be in a good PFD!

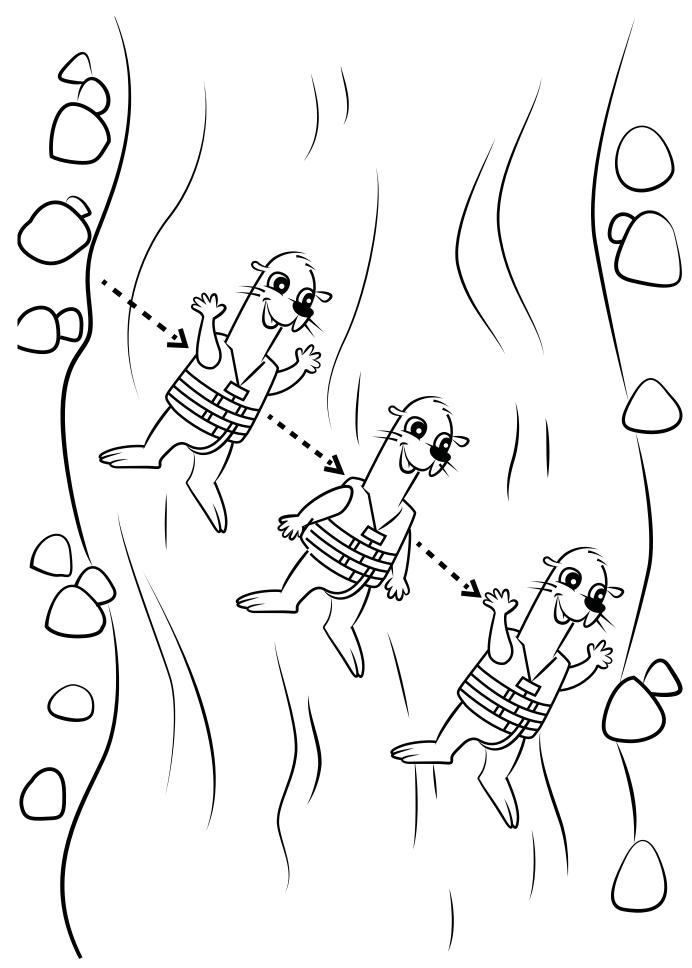


A PFD is a Personal Flotation Device (Lifejacket). Make sure it's US Coast Guard Approved!

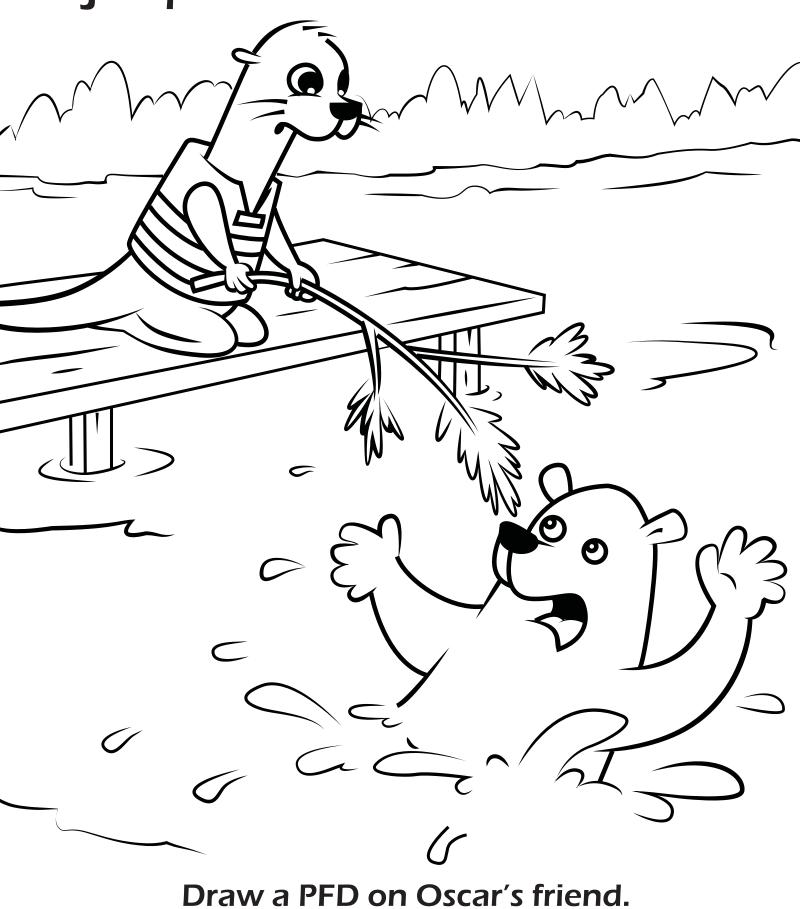
8. You otter not stand until you're on land!



## 7. On your back to swim if you go in!



4. Reach from the beach and don't jump in if someone can't swim.



## 5. You otter scout before you go out!



## 6. You otter scram if you see a dam!

