

ORANGE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE



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**DIAL 9-1-1
FOR EMERGENCIES**

**TO REPORT AN INCIDENT,
CALL 407-836-HELP (4357)**

**Visit us online at:
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Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission,
Florida Boating Improvement Program
www.myfwc.com*

**Station Devices
(FD's)
Children**

**Personal Float
(PFD)
for Children**

ATTENTION GROWN-UPS:

All children under 6 years of age **MUST** wear a type I, II or III USCG approved PFD at all times while underway* on any vessel less than 26 feet in length within Florida waters.

*Underway: Any time except when the vessel is anchored, moored, docked or aground.

Checking the Fit of a Child's PFD



Infant PFD

Child and youth PFD sizes are based on the child's weight. Try on the PFD to see if it fits comfortably and is snug. Insure all straps, zippers and ties are fastened. Raise your child's arms over their head. Try to lift the PFD straight up by the shoulders. The PFD should stay in place. If the PFD can be pulled off or the jacket zipper can touch the child's nose, the vest is too large.

DO NOT PUT ADULT PFD'S ON CHILDREN!

Buoyancy Testing

Test the PFD in shallow water to see how it floats. Put the PFD on your child and insure all straps, zippers and ties are fastened. Tuck in any loose strap ends.

Have your child relax and tilt their head back. Make sure the PFD keeps their chin above water and they can breathe easily. If their mouth is not well above water, get a new PFD or one with more buoyancy.



Child PFD



Please Note:

A child's PFD should be tested in the water immediately after it is purchased.

Remember to take the time to instruct your child on the use of their PFD, including time in the water wearing it. Make it part of a fun activity so the child can easily acclimate to wearing and using their PFD. This will increase their survival chances greatly in the event that they need to use it.

Also, remember that adult PFDs are not intended for use on children. USCG regulations and state law require the PFD to be the appropriate size for the intended wearer.

