

## Introduction

As you begin the presentation, encourage a welcoming atmosphere. The initial focus is on introductions to build rapport with the students. Use this time for students to introduce themselves. Instill excitement about the lesson.



## Slide 1: The Bureau of Reclamation

Introduce the Bureau of Reclamation and its role in managing water and related resources in the American West.

### Suggested Points:

- Explain the significance of reliable water supply and hydroelectric power generation.
- Use relatable examples (like local dams) to establish connections with the students' experiences.
- Ask students if they've visited any dams and what they noticed.

## Summer Activities

Transition to a light-hearted discussion about the summer and activities kids enjoy.

### Suggested Points:

- Encourage students to share summer plans or favorite activities.
- Connect swimming and outdoor safety with upcoming summer breaks.

## Swimming Safety

Discuss the importance of swimming safely.

### Suggested Points:

- Emphasize the necessity of swimming in designated areas only.
- Discuss what signs students might see around bodies of water and the importance of following them.

### Introducing Otto Otter

Introduce Otto and explain the significance of friendship and safety.

### Suggested Points:

- Ask students about their best friends and what makes them special.
- Highlight the concept of friends looking out for one another's safety.
- Use Otto Otter keeping us safe from canals as an example.

## Slide 2: Understanding Canals

Provide a basic understanding of what canals are and their purpose.

### Suggested Points:

- Ask students if they have seen a canal and ask if they know what they are.
- Discuss the role canals play in irrigation.
- Use the two examples in the PowerPoint to emphasize that canals are dangerous no matter what they look like.
- Explain that canals are not regulated for swimming, meaning they could hold hidden dangers such as glass and exposed wires.
- Lastly, canals connect to other structures that could pose a bigger risk to those who are caught in the current. Culverts and siphons are connected to canals and make it extremely difficult to rescue individuals from.
- Encourage students to brainstorm why they think canals are dangerous and list some of the infrastructure that makes them dangerous.

## Slide 3: The Four "NEVERS"

Introduce Otto Otter's FOUR NEVERS and how they will keep us safe from canals during the summer.

## **Slide 4: The Four "NEVERS" – Rule 1**

Discuss why it's important to never go near a canal without an adult.

### **Suggested Points:**

- Ask the students some places that they go to with adults.
- Share situations that require adult supervision.
- Reinforce the idea of safety in numbers and the role of adults in ensuring security.
- Otto Otter never wants you to be in a dangerous situation, so never go near a canal without an adult.

## **Slide 5: The Four "NEVERS" - Rule 2**

Address the importance of not playing around or in canals.

### **Suggested Points:**

- Engage students in a discussion about games they play and how distractions can lead to accidents.
- Emphasize awareness of surroundings when playing.
- Otto Otter never wants you to have to worry about danger when you're having fun so never play around or in a canal.

## **Slide 6: The Four "NEVERS" - Rule 3**

Explain why it's dangerous to walk close to the edge of a canal.

### **Suggested Points:**

- Tell the students about how fast-moving water can create slippery surfaces. Here's a fact that can help the students visualize the speed of the water: "...in 2012, a child's shoe was dropped into the canal to provide a visual of how fast the water travels. In two minutes, the shoe traveled 540 feet and within 5 minutes, it was about a quarter mile away from where the shoe was dropped."
- Discuss physical potential hazards such as slips or falls.
- Bring in examples from their own experiences with slippery surfaces.
- Otto Otter never wants you to fall into a canal, so never walk close to the edge of a canal.

## **Slide 7: Who can go beside or in canals?**

Explain that it is common to see trained adults inside or close to the canals to perform routine maintenance and monitor them.

### **Suggested Points:**

- Ask the children to look at the photos and point out some things that help us know that they are okay to be around or in the canal. Safety vests, equipment, hard hats, and caution tape.
- Emphasize the importance of not just anyone can go in the canals, only specially trained adults can go around or in the canals.
- Ask the children if their mom, dad, teacher, or friends can go in the canal.

## **Slide 8: The Four "NEVERS" - Rule 4**

Talk about why jumping into a canal to save something is unsafe.

### **Suggested Points:**

- Introduce the idea of seeking help from authorities rather than attempting to retrieve items personally.
- Discuss the importance of remaining calm in emergencies and knowing who to call.
- Otto Otter never wants you to be put into danger, so never jump into a canal to save a toy or pet.

## **Slide 9: Canal Safety with Boise Fire**

Highlight the role of emergency services in keeping everyone safe around canals.

### **Suggested Points:**

- Discuss different professionals who might respond to emergencies and their training.
- Emphasize community resources for safety.
- Play the video "Canal Safety with Boise Fire Department." Discuss the safety points that are pointed out in the video.

## **Slide 10: Canal Safety Certification**

Celebrate the students' newfound knowledge of canal safety.

### **Suggested Points:**

- Reinforce the four "NEVERS" as a final takeaway.

## **Otto Otter's Teachers Guide for Elementary Students**

- Encourage students to discuss what they learned with family and friends.

### **Activities:**

- Distribute coloring books, stickers, and bookmarks about canal safety.
- Conclude with a brief review and an interactive session where students can ask questions and share thoughts.

### **Conclusion**

Wrap up the presentation by reiterating the importance of safety, community awareness, and looking out for one another, especially in relation to water safety. Thank the students for their participation and enthusiasm!