

Swimming in rivers is life-threatening!

Do NOT go into the water, stay on the riverside.

Why?

Because of the three dangerous **S**:

Currents (“Strömungen“)

Swirls (“Strudel“)

Ships (“Schiffe“)

Currents in the water drive you away from the riverside, swirls pull you into the depths and waves of passing ships can attract you like a magnet.

It's hot outside and you want to go into the cold water?

Off you go to the swimming pools and bathing lakes in the district of Groß-Gerau.

The video from ZDF logo does a great job of explaining it:

<https://www.zdf.de/kinder/logo/erklaerstueck-baden-in-fluessen-100.html>

Especially when it's really hot outside, people like to spend their time at the Rhine or the Main.

But **ATTENTION**: Don't forget that **swimming in the river** can be **very dangerous**, even for experienced swimmers from the “Water Rescue Service” or the “German Lifeguard Association” (DLRG).

In large rivers, such as the Rhine and Main, there are several dangers at the same time.

Currents:

A current pulls the swimmer away from the riverside with great force and speed. You have no chance of swimming back without help. The current is far too strong.

Swirls:

Swirls are really nasty. They hide under the surface of the water. You therefore don't see them and are caught off guard in the water. Swirls pull a person under water.

Ships:

The Rhine and Main are true highways for big cargo ships. They constantly go up and down on the river. In doing so, they cause strong waves. These waves work like a magnet: They pull everything towards the ship, including a person, and could possibly push the person under the ship.

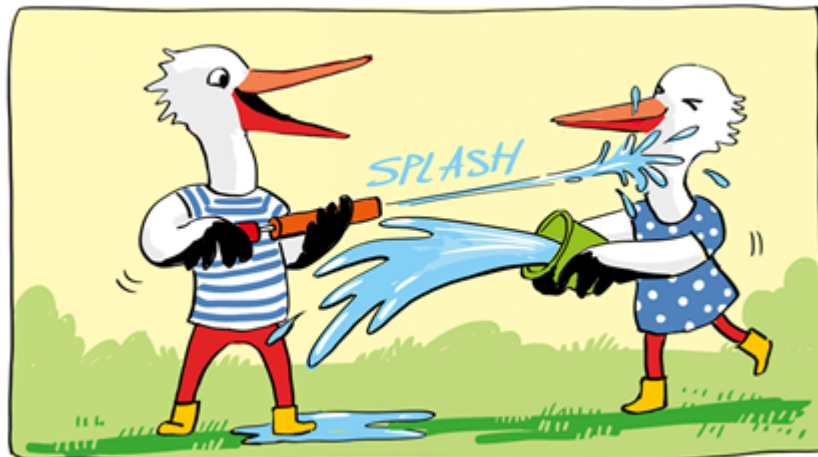
How should you react when you see that a person in the water is in distress?

- Immediately call 112
- Describe the place where you are (signs at the river with numbers - see example)



- The most important thing: do not go into the water, it is dangerous

So, what does it mean? At the river: Stay on the riverside! You want to go into the water anyways? Then you should go **to the swimming pools or bathing lakes**. Or maybe this is an idea to cool off on a hot summer day?



Now you are perfectly informed:

Be a scout and let your friends, family and others know what you have just learned! In this way you help to save lives.