**You are the best Swimmer in the World ……. To me!**

**P1 –** *CHILDS NAME* loved to swim! He/She adored everything about swimming. Getting ready to go. Gathering up the swimming clothes. Picking the fluffiest towel out of the closet. Searching for his/her favourite goggles. Not forgetting, shoving that luscious smelling shower gel for the steamy shower deep into his/her special swimming bag. *CHILDS NAME* just loooooooooooooovvvvvvvveeeeeeeeeedddddddd to swim!

**P2A –** *CHILDS NAME* loved the swimming costumes adorned with her favourite characters. She had so many swimming costumes that she never knew which one to choose. If she had her way she would have a wardrobe full of nothing but swim wear! That way she would have to go to school in her favourite costume, to the shopping centre in her flippers and to the park in her goggles! Perfect!

**P2B -** *CHILDS NAME* loved the feeling of the water gently lapping on his/her skin. Some children adored running amok around the park, playing tag and kiss chase. Yuk! Other children were never happier than when they were let loose in the indoor play centre, like animals in a zoo! But *CHILDS NAME* felt at his/her very happiest surrounded by the cool waters of the pool, entering a new world, a world of water … where anything was possible.

**P2C –** *CHILDS NAME* loved swimming deep under the still surface of the water. Surrounded by the silence of the secret world underneath the surface, *CHILDS NAME* would eagerly enter this world as an explorer, searching out wondrous new worlds, magical mermaids, spooky shipwrecks and new creatures of the underworld.

**P2D –** *CHILDS NAME* loved playing with all the fun inflatables. To *CHILDS NAME* they weren’t simply blow up slides in a pool. No! They were mountains surrounded by the shark ridden oceans of the Splashire world. He/She knew that if he/she didn’t cling fearlessly to the side of the erupting volcano that he/she would simply slip to his/her perilous end at the mercy of the sea monsters that lay precariously beneath.

**P2E –** *CHILDS NAME* loved practising all his/her favourite swimming strokes. To

*CHILDS NAME* he wasn’t making his/her way across the local swimming pool. No! He/She was facing heavy competition against some of the world’s best swimmers in the Olympic Games in Splashire. He/She had never beaten the Splashirian King before! Despite him being a Merman, *CHILDS NAME* was determined to beat him to the finish line. The whole of the Splashire kingdom would then belong to her/him! The pressure was on!

**P3 –** *CHILDS NAME* was excited by the bustling sounds coming from the pool. He/She would stand shivering in his/her swimming outfit anticipating what was waiting on the other side of the tiled walls. Whilst waiting for the wail of the instructor to signal the start of the lesson, he/she would begin to wonder? Had the pirates arrived? How many prisoners had they already taken? Was that the sound of snapping piranhas?

**P4A** – *CHILDS NAME* adored the rush from diving in and entering their very own magical world. The moment his/her face passed beneath the surface, their world changed and this new world was his/hers alone. He/She was gliding down to the bottom of the deep dark ocean past the shoals of Sea Bass, in search of the famous Titanic shipwreck. She/he would be the one to bring back the treasure!

**P4B –** *CHILDS NAME* adored jumping in and feeling the whoosh of the water splash against his/her skin. A world where the love of swimming was all that mattered. He/She wasn’t plunging into the shared water of the local pool. Oh no! He was jumping off the highest cliff in the world escaping the ‘Chief Maker of all the Boring Rules in the Universe’

**P4C -** *CHILDS NAME* adored doing the doggy paddle. He/She wasn’t on a mission to make his way across the pool. Oh no! He was crossing the luscious emerald seas! He/She would doggy paddle all the way to the Tropical Island. He/She had heard the rare Chlorile bird lived there. He would track down the bird and tell everybody back at home how beautiful it was, especially since he/she was the only person in the world to lay their eyes upon it!

**P4D -** *CHILDS NAME* adored practising the butterfly stroke. He/She felt like a butterfly herself/himself. A butterfly cruising gently across the surface of the choppy water, cheekily dipping in and out of the water avoiding the lethal snapping of the Rare Black Sea Devil’s jaws!

**P4E –** *CHILDS NAME* adored seeing how far he/she could swim. But he/she wasn’t on a mission to make his/her way across the pool. Oh no!. He/She was leisurely swimming across the turquoise shores with a dolphin family. There was no way he/she would stop swimming with them until they had been led to the safety of the deep blue ocean.

**P5**  - Swimming day was *CHILDS NAME* favourite day in the whole week! No visit to a theme park could compare to this. You see, the swimming pool was a blank canvas of which you could draw your own imagination upon.

He/She tried so hard to be an incredible swimmer, but knew only too well that there was more to swimming then being ‘marvellous’. What was it all about then? It was about having a great time of course!

**P6A –** But still he/she never got chosen for the prestigious swimming galas.

Sure, maybe some of the other swimmers might have been a tad faster? Their arms may have just created that perfect arc. Those dives they did, might just have been about as perfect as they could ever be! But …….

didn’t CHILDS NAME deserve a chance? Didn’t all those hours of dedication mean anything? He/She would definitely enjoy it just as much as everyone else!

**P6B –** But still he/she couldn’t pass the swimming grade. He/She listened and watched so entirely. No matter how perfectly he/she carried out every single instruction the teacher never seemed to notice that swimming was his/her most favourite thing ….. ever!

CHILDS NAME felt sad that the teacher didn’t seem to notice how fast he/she swam alongside the dolphins. Or how he/she dived so deep that he/she reached the land of the Mer-folk! Did he not spy him/her floating along the top of the water like a butterfly? What about his/her epic jump into the water from the top of the highest cliff in the world?

**P6C –** But still the swimming teacher never seemed pleased. The frowning, exasperated teacher seemed unable to smile. “Nothing short of perfection will do” he would often growl through his gritted teeth. The silly beast clearly didn’t know what swimming was all about! Did he really believe it was about how fast you swam? Or how perfect your dive was?

CHILDS NAME felt sorry for the beast teacher! He had clearly never experienced the underwater world of Splashire! He had never met the exquisite Mer-People or clung to the inflatables to escape the shark ridden waters of the Emerald Sea.

**P6D –** But still he/she just couldn’t get it right. No matter how hard he/she tried. Or how many times he/she visited the swimming pool. CHILDS NAME couldn’t help but wonder why there needed to be a right or a wrong way to swim. Even though he/she seemed to always do it wrong … it still felt amazing when he got to the bottom of the ocean to collect the mussels and oysters. It still felt wonderful when he/she played tag with the hammer head sharks.

**P7 –** Swimming day was starting to feel like the worst day in the whole week!

*CHILDS NAME* simply felt like the worst swimmer in the world!

**P8** - CHILDS NAME felt sad that the day that he/she had loved the best now made her/him the saddest.

CHILDS NAME Mum/Dad/Grandmother/Grandfather also felt sad that his/her/their special one, had forgotten how much they like to swim for the swimming itself and not for the reward at the end.

**P9 (could possibly be on the same page as page 8) –** *CHILDS NAME* might not have always been the best swimmer in the pool but they certainly tried the hardest. Even when he/she felt nobody else believed in him/her, he got straight back in that pool and tried again. What courage and determination!

**P10A –** *CHILDS NAME* was trying so hard when he/she dived but belly flopped on top of the water. Even though his/her belly stung from the hit and his/her heart sunk deep to the bottom of the pool, no tears came to his/her eyes, he/she just swam quickly to the edge and tried again. Just as determined as the first time.

**P10B** *CHILDS NAME* was trying so hard when he/she came last again in the race. Even though his/her poor legs and arms ached from striving to win and his/her heart seemed to break into a thousand pieces, no tears came to his/her eyes. Not a single one! He/she climbed quickly out of the pool and with pure determination prepared for the next race.

**P10C** *CHILDS NAME* was trying so hard when he/she just couldn’t make the last few strokes of the length. Even though his/her poor legs and arms felt like they were about to drop off, and his/her heart was broken with defeat, he/she refused to shed a single tear, he/she just slowly climbed out of the pool. He/She would try even harder next time.

**P10D** *CHILDS NAME* was trying so hard when he/she just couldn’t perfect the stroke. Even though he watched the instructor so carefully and he was sure this time he had done it exactly as was directed his/her heart sunk deep to the bottom of the pool when the teacher once again shook his head. But still he refused to give up. Tears came to his/her eyes but he/she wiped them away quickly and with pure determination, he set off again, sure that he was going to get it right this time.

**P10E** *CHILDS NAME* was trying so hard when he/she was too afraid to jump in.

Even though he/she wanted to plunge into the inviting waters below more than he/she wanted anything else in the whole wide world, there seemed to be an invisible wall that just stopped him/her. Poor *CHILDS NAME*, his/her heart sunk deep to the bottom of the pool when the teacher once again shook his head. He/She wouldn’t be beat! He/She would just try even harder next time!

**P11** CHILDS NAME was beginning to wonder if anybody in the universe noticed how hard he/she tried. Was there anybody out there? Maybe the Mer-People of Splashire? Maybe the sharks in the Emerald Sea? Maybe the Chloric Birds of the Tropical Island. Surely the pirates noticed? CHILDS NAME was pretty sure that nobody else did.

**P12A –** But one person in particular always, unfailingly, noticed how hard *CHILDS NAME* tried.

*CHILDS NAME* *Mummy/Daddy/Grandma/Grandad* was always ready to give a smile, a hug or a few simple words of encouragement.

**P12B –** But there was always two people in particular who always unfailingly, noticed how hard *CHILDS NAME* tried.

*CHILDS NAME* *Mummy and Daddy/Grandma and Grandad* were always ready to congratulate him/her, encourage him/her but most of all just to show how proud they were of his/her determination.

**P13A –** No matter how many mistakes CHILDS NAME made throughout his/her lesson. He/She/They clapped even when she was last, whooping from the stands.

**P13B –** No matter how many mistakes CHILDS NAME made throughout his/her lesson. He/She/They congratulated her even when her belly was red from slapping on the water.

**P13C** –He/She/They hugged her, bursting with pride, even when he/she just couldn’t make the full length.

**P13D** - No matter how many mistakes CHILDS NAME made throughout his/her lesson. He/She/They cheered even when after lots of encouragement, she/he still failed to muster up the courage to jump in.

**P14 –** Maybe *CHILDS NAME* didn’t need anybody else to notice how hard he tried? Not even the Mer-People of Splashire or the sharks in the Emerald Sea, or the Chloric Birds of the Tropical Island, or the pirates and definitely, definitely not the teacher beast! Yuk … no not him, definitely not him!

**15A –** Gala day was approaching again and *CHILDS NAME* had given up all hope of being picked to compete. Even though undeterred he had fought off all the Petrifying Pirates climbing up the tiled steps of the pool, to complete a full length with aching limbs managing to avoid being eaten by the notoriously dangerous sea monsters. Surely that was something?

**15B** – It was selection date for the prestigious Swimming Team but *CHILDS NAME* was annoyed that no matter how hard she tried, she knew they would never choose him/her to join the swimming team. Even though he/she had worked so hard to protect the people in the pool from the terrifying Great White Sharks, even though he/she was the only person in the world that had managed to reach the Splashire Kingdom and mingle amongst the mer-folk, he/she still knew that the love of swimming, along with these wondorous experiences, were not important when it came to team selection.

**15C –** It was exam day, but *CHILDS NAME* held out no hopes of passing the swimming grade. Even though undeterred after every unsuccessful exam attempt he/she continued to

**15D -** Today’s was the dive lesson. Although this was *CHILDS NAME* favourite part of swimming, she/he felt there was little point at trying to practise her dives. Even though undeterred for weeks he/she had fought off all the Petrifying Pirates trying to invade the tiled steps of the pool and completed every task set with aching limbs managing to avoid being eaten by the notoriously dangerous sea monsters. Surely that was something?

**15E -** *CHILDS NAME* had given up all hope of reaching the end of the length. Even though undeterred for weeks he/she had fought off all the Petrifying Pirates trying to invade the tiled steps of the pool and completed every task set with aching limbs managing to avoid being eaten by the notoriously dangerous sea monsters. Surely that was something?

**P16 -** CHILDS NAME thought that perhaps it was best if he/she didn’t swim at all anymore. What was the point? No smiles from the instructors. No badges to sew on his/her towel. No certificates for the wall. No shiny medals to hang around her/his neck!

*CHILDS NAME* entered the water with butterflies flying around his/her tummy. He/She wanted so much to make everybody see how hard he/she tried. Surely this would make swimming feel even more amazing!

**How did they manage to get picked for the below?**

**P17A –** *CHILDS NAME* could hear the cheering and whooping from the viewing area. Who cared about the silly Gala anyway? CHILDS NAME had just as much fun exploring the wonders of the pools and feeling the sensation of the cool water all around him/her.

**P17B** – CHILDS NAME could hear the cheering and whooping from the viewing area. Who cared about the silly exam anyway. It was the fun of the swim not having a certificate on the wall to look at! CHILDS NAME had just as much fun exploring the wonders of the pools and feeling the sensation of the cool water all around him/her.

**P17C** – CHILDS NAME could hear the cheering and whooping from the viewing area. Who cared about perfecting a swimming stroke anyway. It was the fun of the swim not how perfect it looked to the spectator! CHILDS NAME had just as much fun exploring the wonders of the pools and feeling the sensation of the cool water all around him/her.

**P17D** – CHILDS NAME could hear the cheering and whooping from the viewing area. Who cared about perfecting a dive anyway. It was the feeling of plunging beneath the water like a dolphin not how perfect it looked to the spectator! CHILDS NAME had just as much fun exploring the wonders of the pools and feeling the sensation of the cool water all around him/her.

**P17E** – CHILDS NAME could hear the cheering and whooping from the viewing area. Who cared about perfecting a swimming stroke anyway. It was the fun of the swim not how perfect it looked to the spectator!

CHILDS NAME had just as much fun exploring the wonders of the pools and feeling the sensation of the cool water all around him/her.

**P18A** - CHILDS NAME gathered all his/her courage and at last, made the scary uncertain plunge straight deep down into the pool. She/he felt the cool water against her/his skin. She/he had done it!

The Pirates ‘Eye Eye’d’, the Mer-People sang their happy song and the sharks waved their tales in congratulations of CHILDS NAME well earnt success.

**P18B -** CHILDS NAME took the dive poise. Waited for the instructors call. He/She closed her eyes, made the leap and slipped smoothly into the cool pool below. There was no belly flopping, no stinging on the belly. She/he had done it!

The Pirates ‘Eye Eye’d’, the Mer-People sang their happy song and the sharks waved their tales in congratulations of CHILDS NAME well earnt success.

**P18C -** CHILDS NAME held the side of the pool tightly. Waited for the instructors call and pushed off as hard as he/she could. The tiredness didn’t kick in as usual, and before he/she knew it his/her hand touched the side of the pool. She/he had done it!

The Pirates ‘Eye Eye’d’, the Mer-People sang their happy song and the sharks waved their tales in congratulations of CHILDS NAME well earnt success.

**P18D** - CHILDS NAME had tried so hard all lesson. He/She pulled herself/himself out the pool and stood in line to receive the pass or fail slip. The instructor shoved the paper into her/his wet crinkly hands. She/he removed her goggles to see if he/she was imagining this. PASS!!! She/he had done it!

The Pirates ‘Eye Eye’d’, the Mer-People sang their happy song and the sharks waved their tales in congratulations of CHILDS NAME well earnt success.

**P18E -** *CHILDS NAME* had tried so hard all lesson. He/She pulled herself/himself out the pool and was heading back into the changing room when the swimming instructor shoved the paper into her/his wet crinkly hands. She/he removed her goggles to see if he/she was imagining this. It was an invite into the swimming team. She/he had finally done it!

The Pirates ‘Eye Eye’d’, the Mer-People sang their happy song and the sharks waved their tales in congratulations of CHILDS NAME well earnt success.

**P18F** - CHILDS NAME had tried so hard all lesson. He/She pulled herself/himself out the pool and was heading back into the changing room when the swimming instructor shoved the paper into her/his wet crinkly hands. She/he removed her goggles hurriedly to see if he/she was imagining this. It was an invite to compete in the Swimming Gala. She/he had finally done it!

The Pirates ‘Eye Eye’d’, the Mer-People sang their happy song and the sharks waved their tales in congratulations of CHILDS NAME well earnt success.

**P19** – He/She eagerly ran into the warm open arms of his/her Mummy/Daddy/Grandma/Grandad. “Did I do good?” he/she whispered breathlessly. He/she/they replied bursting with pride “Clever you”. “You are the best swimmer in the world ……….. To me!”