CLAIMS

1. An entry system for a water slide, comprising:

an entry platform configured to support a rider above a water slide entry;

an enclosure defining an enclosed space about the platform configured to at least partially enclose the rider when the rider is positioned on the entry platform;

a fluid delivery system configured to deliver fluid within the enclosure;

a drain positioned in the enclosure above a predetermined fluid level such that the fluid drains when the enclosed space is filled above the predetermined fluid level; and

a control system configured to:

receive a signal that the rider is positioned on the entry platform;

provide instructions to the fluid delivery system to deliver the fluid within the enclosure to a predetermined fill level when the rider is positioned on the entry platform; and

trigger the entry platform to release the rider into the water slide entry.

2. The entry system of claim 1, wherein the enclosure is at least partially clear or translucent such that the rider is visible from an exterior surface of the enclosure when the rider is positioned on the entry platform.

3. The entry system of claim 1, wherein the enclosure is positioned at a reclining angle.

4. The entry system of claim 1, wherein the fluid delivery system is configured to deliver the fluid into the enclosed space such that the fluid contacts the rider when the rider is positioned on the entry platform.

5. The entry system of claim 1, comprising a sensor coupled to the entry platform or the enclosure and configured to generate the signal.

6. The entry system of claim 1, comprising a user input device configured to generate the signal.

7. The entry system of claim 1, wherein the control system is configured to receive another

signal that the fluid has reached a predetermined level or volume within the enclosure and to provide instructions to the fluid delivery system to stop fluid delivery when the predetermined level or volume has been reached.

8. The entry system of claim 1, comprising a sensor configured to provide the signal that the rider is positioned on the entry platform.

9. The entry system of claim 1, wherein the entry platform comprises a trap door, and wherein triggering the entry platform comprises providing instructions to a mechanical controller coupled to the entry platform to open the trap door.

10. The entry system of claim 1, wherein the fluid delivery system comprises a plurality of fluid ports configured to deliver the fluid.

11. The entry system of claim 10, wherein the control system is configured to provide instructions to the plurality of fluid ports to deliver the fluid at different times relative to one another.

12. The entry system of claim 10, wherein the plurality of fluid ports are positioned within a ceiling or top of the enclosure or at respective positions within the enclosure relatively closer to the ceiling or top of the enclosure than the entry platform.

13. The entry system of claim 10, wherein the plurality of fluid ports are positioned within the entry platform or at respective positions within the enclosure relatively closer to the entry platform than a ceiling or top of the enclosure.

14. The entry system of claim 10, wherein the plurality of fluid ports are positioned at different distances from the entry platform relative to one another.

15. The entry system of claim 1, comprising a light source configured to emit light within the enclosure.

16. The entry system of claim 15, wherein the light source is configured to emit light within a cavity in a wall of the enclosure.

17. A method, comprising:

receiving a signal that a rider is positioned on an entry platform, wherein the entry platform is positioned within an enclosure and above a water slide;

activating a fluid flow in the enclosure to partially fill the enclosure to a predetermined fluid level, wherein the enclosure is oriented such that the fluid rises from a bottom of the enclosure to reach the predetermined fluid level; and

opening the entry platform to release the rider into the water slide when the fluid reaches the predetermined fluid level.

18. The method of claim 17, comprising activating flow of a second fluid in the enclosure after the fluid flow has been activated.

19. The method of claim 17, comprising stopping the fluid flow based on a feedback signal from a sensor.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the feedback signal indicates that the fluid has reached the predetermined fluid level.

21. An entry system for a water slide, comprising:

an entry platform configured to support a rider above a water slide entry;

an enclosure defining an enclosed space about the platform configured to at least partially enclose the rider when the rider is positioned on the entry platform;

a fluid delivery system configured to deliver fluid within the enclosure, wherein the enclosure comprises a wall having a cavity, and

wherein the fluid is delivered into the cavity; and a control system configured to:

receive a signal that the rider is positioned on the entry platform;

provide instructions to the fluid delivery system to deliver the fluid within the enclosure to a predetermined fill level when the rider is positioned on the entry platform; and

trigger the entry platform to release the rider into the water slide entry.

22. The entry system of claim 21, wherein the cavity is isolated from the entry platform such that the fluid does not contact the rider when the rider is positioned on the entry platform.

23. The entry system of claim 21, wherein the cavity drains into the enclosed space at a slower rate than the fluid is delivered into the cavity.