

DOG SAFETY



Any dog can bite, even a family dog. Never leave kids unattended around a dog. Supervision is always the best way to prevent dog bites.

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Here are some dog safety tips to teach kids:

WHEN SAYING HI/PETTING

- Always ask the owner if it's OK before you pet the dog.
- If it's OK:
 - turn sideways and avoid staring into their eyes
 - hold your arm low and make your hand into a ball or flat with palm up
 - let the dog come to you
 - after allowing the dog to sniff your hand:
 - gently pet the side of the dog's neck, chest and body avoiding the top of the head and tail
 - Avoid hugging or kissing the dog

DON'T

- stare or put your face close
- sneak up or startle
- hit, push, pull their fur/tail/ears
- climb on or ride a dog
- tease with food or toys
- yell, make loud noises or be rowdy
- run near a dog
- crowd or back a dog into a corner
- reach or lean over a dog

LEAVE A DOG ALONE IF THEY ARE

- without their owner
- inside a fence/gate or tied in a yard, even if you know them
- eating food/bone or playing with a toy
- in their crate, hiding, sleeping, sick or nursing puppies
- barking or growling
- a service dog
- playing with another dog

IF CHASED/ATTACKED

- **Stay still, cross your arms across your chest, and look at the ground.**
- **We want the dog to be bored and go away so avoid looking at the dog, making noise or running.**
- **If you are on the ground or get knocked down, curl up and cover your face and stomach.**



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