


TIPS

HELP EDUCATE YOUR KIDS ON DOG BITE PREVENTION

While animals can be fun, they can also be dangerous.

Here are some important tips to ensure your children are safe around pets both at home, and in the community.

-  Always supervise children when they are near animals, even your own pets.
-  Teach children to treat animals with respect. Be calm and gentle and use quiet voices around dogs
-  Never tease, chase or corner a dog.
-  Never surprise a dog that is sleeping.
-  Never approach a dog that is eating, or a mother dog that has puppies.
-  Teach kids about recognising simple animal body language.
-  Children should not approach dogs they do not know, even if it looks friendly.
-  Teach your child to always ask the owner and yourself before patting an unfamiliar dog.
-  If your child is approached by an unfamiliar dog, teach your child to stand very still like a tree, with their arms by their sides and hands in a fist (trees are boring and the dog should eventually lose interest and go away).
-  Teach your children not to scream, run or make eye contact with the dog.
-  Do not bear hug a dog around the neck, hold onto a dog's tail or try to ride it like a horse.
-  Provide dogs with a 'quiet space' to enjoy peaceful time out from play and attention.

