

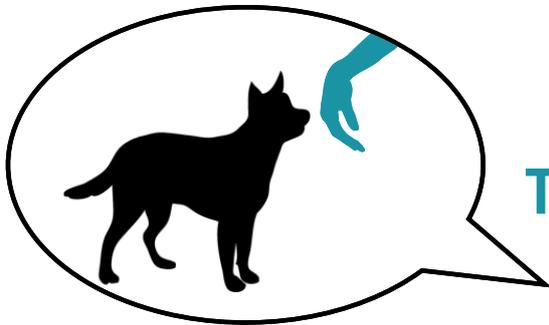
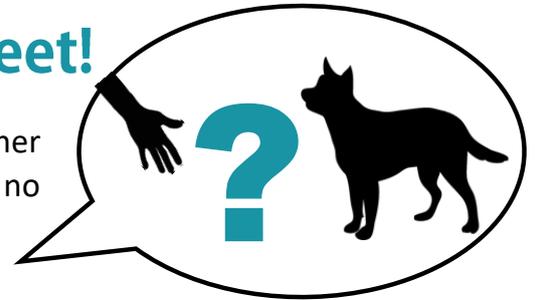


Safety Around Dogs!

9 tips to follow so that children can be safe around dogs

1 Check it's sweet before you meet!

Before walking up to a dog always check with their owner first that it is ok to say hello. Never go up to a dog when no adult is present or if the owner says not to.



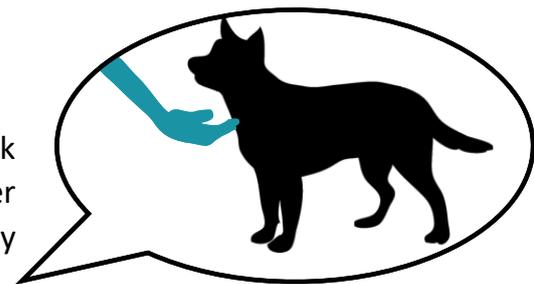
To understand - they sniff your hand!

2

Dogs use their nose to smell you to get to know you. When walking up to a dog walk in a curved line, do not directly approach the dog. Then offer them the back of your closed hand to sniff first. Let the dog approach your hand, do not push your hand under their nose.

3 Chin or chest- that's the best!

If the dog seems friendly and their owner says it is ok you may then gently pat the dog on the chest or under the chin. It is best to not pat them on the head as they may get frightened by this.



If a dog has a snack- keep well back!

If a dog is eating, has a bone or is holding a toy stay away! Do not try to pat them until they are finished. The dog might think you want to steal some of its food or toy and may bite.

It is also best to not pat a dog when they are sleeping or in their bed as they may get scared. This is important even with your own dog at home.



4

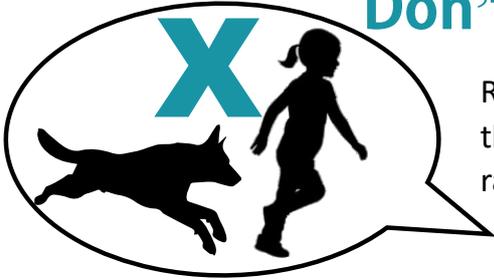
5 Keep your face out of their space!

Do not put your face down near a dog's mouth or try to kiss them near their mouth. The dog may accidentally hurt you with its teeth even if it does not want to bite you.



6 Don't run and shout- it freaks us out!

Running and shouting around dogs may scare or overexcite them. It is best to play games like fetch or teach tricks rather than play rough games like tug-of-war or chasy.



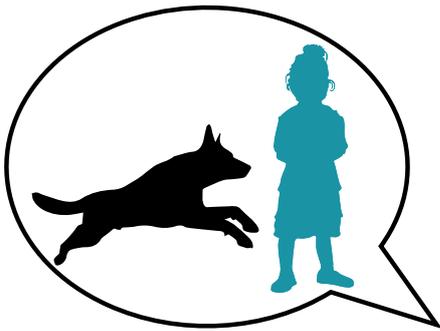
7 A dog is not a toy- don't tease and annoy!

Never tease a dog by waving food or a toy in front of it that you do not want to give it and never hurt it. Do not pull dogs' ears or tails, pinch or poke dogs. A dog can only tell us to stop by growling or biting.



8 Quiet and slow- is the way to go!

If a dog runs up to you and it is acting mean (e.g. growling or snarling, barking aggressively, has flattened its ears back, has raised hackles and/or is fixedly staring) or you are scared don't run away. Stand very still with your arms crossed over your chest as if you are giving yourself a big hug and stare at the ground. Then walk away very slowly and quietly. Do not scream or stare at the dog as they may think you want to fight. If you see 2 or more dogs fighting with one another do not try to separate the dogs, even if one of the dogs is yours. Always find an adult to help and never put yourself between the dogs.



9 To meet a pup- ask a grown-up!

Before patting or cuddling a puppy always check with a grown-up that it is safe to do so. Some puppies may be too little to handle or they may be with their mum who may get protective of them.

