

TIPS FOR PARENTS AND DOG OWNERS FOR KEEPING KIDS SAFE.

Important things to teach your kids:

- Never Tease a Dog – and never disturb a dog that’s sleeping, eating or protecting something.
- Be a Tree if a Strange Dog Approaches – Teach kids to stand still, like a tree. Trees are boring and the dog will eventually go away. This works for strange dogs and anytime the family dog gets too frisky or becomes aggressive.
- Ask for permission to pet the dog. If someone is already petting the dog, wait until they are finished.

Important things parents can do:

- Supervise – Don’t assume your dog is good with kids. If a toddler must interact with your dog, you should have your hands on the dog too. Even if your dog is great with kids and has never bitten – why take a chance?
- Train the dog – Take your dog to obedience classes where positive-reinforcement is used. Never pin, shake, choke, hold the dog down or roll the dog over to teach it a lesson. Dogs treated this way are likely to turn their aggression on weaker family members. Involve older children in training the family dog while supervising. Don’t allow children to punish the dog. Condition the dog to enjoy the presence and actions of children using positive experiences.

Important things dog owners can do:

- Condition Your Dog for the World – Give your puppy lots of new positive experiences. Train using positive methods i.e. clicker training.
 - Supervise Your Dog – Supervise your dog at all times around children. If visiting children are bothering your dog, put the dog away or send the children home.
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