Keys to Supervising Dogs and Kids

There are an estimated 800,000 Americans seeking medical attention for dog bites each year, with over half of these injuries to children ages 5-9. The problem is not lack of supervision. The problem is no one has taught parents what they should be watching for.

Intervene when any of these things are happening:

1. Tense canine body language
   - Stiff or frozen, not loose

2. Inappropriate human behavior
   - Children playing rough
   - Children chasing dogs

3. Three really-easy-to-see stress signals in your dog
   - Yawning
   - Lip licking
   - Whites of eyes showing

4. Avoidance behaviors
   - I really don't want to be bothered. I will go away.

5. Growling
   - I am warning you.

Robin Bennett
Helping Others Learn How to Keep Dogs Safe
www.robinkbennett.com
### How Kids SHOULD NOT Interact with Dogs

It’s common sense. Just imagine how people should interact with each other.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Avoid taking people’s food</th>
<th>Avoid bothering dogs when they are eating</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avoid stealing other people’s toys</td>
<td>Avoid taking a dog’s bones or toys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avoid putting your face right up to someone else’s face</td>
<td>Avoid putting your face right up to a dog’s face</td>
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<tr>
<td>Avoid bothering when asleep</td>
<td>Avoid bothering animals when they are resting. Let sleeping dogs lie.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Avoid pestering</td>
<td>Avoid grabbing tail/ears</td>
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<tr>
<td>Avoid climbing on or trampling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Avoid pinching</td>
<td>Avoid hugging. Most dogs dislike it.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Avoid screaming around</td>
<td>Avoid hollering and shouting. Use your “inside” voice instead.</td>
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</table>
How Kids SHOULD Interact with Dogs
Use common sense.

- Be polite and kind to pets
- Learn to recognize when your dog is scared or anxious

Play appropriate games with pets, such as:

- Fetch
- Training tricks (like roll over, shake, beg, etc.)
- Walking and running with a dog
- Playing hide-n-seek

Always remember:

- Supervise all interactions. Accidents can happen in a split second.
- Train your dog to associate the kids with positive experiences so he'll be more likely to tolerate your child in case she accidentally interacts inappropriately.

Dr. Sophia Yin, DVM, MS
The Art and Science of Animal Behavior
For additional free dog bite prevention resources and more dog behavior books and products, visit www.drsophiayin.com.
The Young Person's Guide To

WOOFs and GROWLS

Dogs are different to people. Clarissa will show us what to do - and what not to do around dogs.

Never put your face near a dog's face.

Be quiet and walk slowly. Dogs get scared of loud noises and fast movement.

Always wait for a dog to come to you. If they want to be stroked or play, they will ask!

Never disturb dogs when they are sleeping.

Never go up to a dog when they are eating.

Dogs growl when they are angry or scared. Fold your arms and walk away slowly.

Never go up to or touch a dog you don't know.

Brought to you by www.JezRose.co.uk

For further resources and information on dog training and behaviour, see www.JezRose.co.uk

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