

# Be Kind to Animals: Dog Bite Safety

Did you know over 800,000 Americans seek medical attention each year for dog bites?

## Why do dog bites occur?

1. If a dog is sick or ill, they may bite because they are in pain.
2. A dog that is stressed may become frightened - this can lead to fearful bites.
3. A dog may bite a child who tries to touch or hug them, take their toys or interfere with their sleep.

## PREVENTION

Ask permission from owner before approaching a dog. Respect an owner who tells you not to approach. Do not leave young children unattended with dogs, and teach them the right way to respectfully interact with dogs.



## Your Dog

- Keep rabies vaccination current
- Keep on leash when away from home

## Learn

- Pay attention to canine body language
- Respect your dog's need for space away from people

## Train

- Take time to train and socialize your dog
- Use positive reinforcement for good behavior

