

## 77 % of dog bites actually occur in the home between children and family dogs.

It is a **MUST** that the dog and children meet before an adoption.

**Rules you should always follow with kids and dogs:**

- Never allow children to approach a dog that has a bone, a dog that is engaged in chewing a toy, or a dog that is sleeping.
- Do **not** allow children to pick up small dogs or dance with little dogs.
- No hugs, kisses, climbing on or riding the dog.
- Invite the dog into the child's space, so the dog can choose if he is comfortable. Dogs should **NEVER** be force to meet children.

Dog's are very adaptable; however it is important to allow your new dog time to adjust.

**Rules for proper adjustment between kids and dogs (first two weeks):**

- Get a crate and teach your dog to be comfortable when he is in there using toys, bully sticks, and treats.
- While the new dog is still getting to know the new family, children should be asked to be calm around the dog. If this is not possible, use a baby gate or crate to create space when children are feeling rambunctious.
- When toddlers are eating put the dog in a crate or another room.
- Create safe places where kids can't go such as a dog bed in the corner, a kennel, or another room. That way the dog has a place to escape if they are feeling overwhelmed.

For any assistance with introductions, kennel training, or any other behavior related questions or concerns please contact us immediately at [behaviorandtraining@hsspv.org](mailto:behaviorandtraining@hsspv.org) or call 303-703-2938 to speak with our dog trainer.



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# STAY SAFE AROUND THE DOGS YOU KNOW

## THEIR BODY



Pet dogs gently with one hand, collar to tail (not on the head).



Sit WITH dogs, not ON them.



DON'T dress up dogs.



DON'T kiss, hug or pick up dogs.

## THEIR FEELINGS



Learn what dogs are saying and listen when they need you.



Be kind. Do things dogs like.



DON'T yell, scare, hurt or tease dogs.



DON'T be bossy (or make dogs do things they don't want to).

## RESPECT



Always invite dogs into YOUR space instead of going into theirs.



Walk away from dogs when they're in crates or resting anywhere.



Train and play with dogs using treats and toys.



Let grown ups take care of dogs when they have something they shouldn't.



DON'T go up to dogs when they're eating or chewing.



DON'T put your face in dogs' faces.



DON'T take anything from dogs...



...EVEN if it's yours! Ask a grown up for help.

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## THEIR SPACE



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## THEIR STUFF

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