

DOGS + KIDS

Most dog bites occur at home.

The child usually knows the dog and has done something to make the dog bite.

✘ Never leave your child alone with a dog – all dogs can bite.

If children and dogs are in the same area, they must be watched closely by an adult at all times.



✔ Always separate dogs and children during eating and sleeping times.



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Remember that any dog can bite.

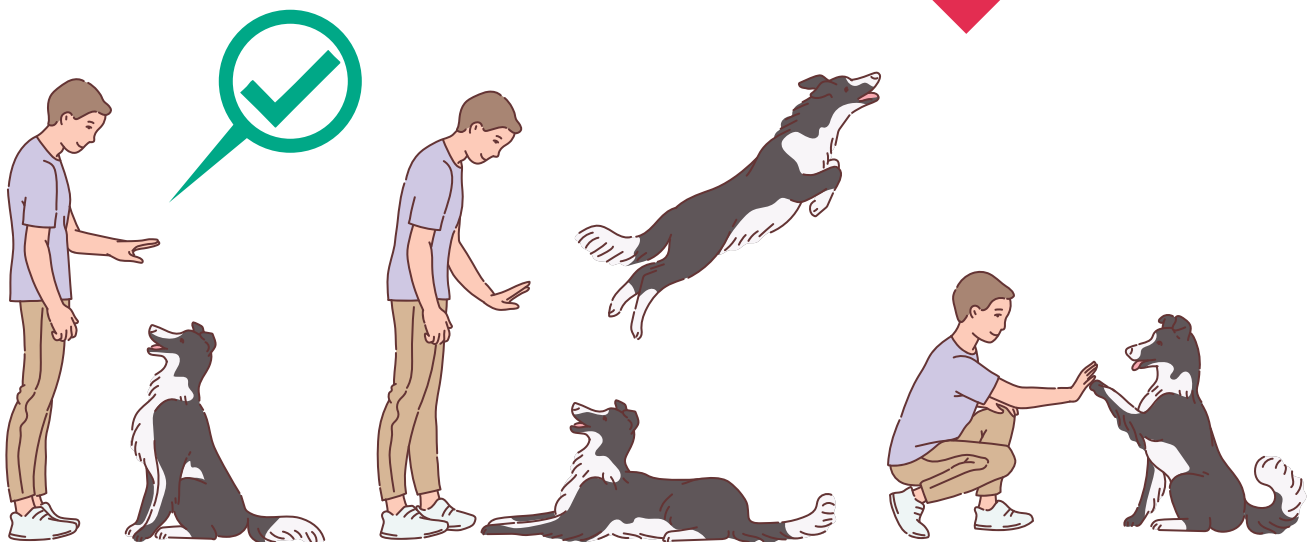
All dogs will bite under the right conditions. Children often provide those conditions by teasing the dog with food or pulling the dog's fur and tail.

As your child grows you can teach them how to treat dogs.

It is also a good idea to take your dog to training classes to help them learn to get along with humans and learn to 'sit' and 'come' when they are told.

Safety checklist to prevent a dog bite

- Do you have a separate area for your dog to play that is away from children?
- Do you always watch your child and dog when they are in the same area?
- Have you taught your child how to play with your dog? How to treat them – what to do and not to do?
- Has your dog been to training classes to learn how to 'sit' and 'come'?



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This resource was originally developed by Kidsafe SA

This resource is for general information only. Please consult Kidsafe VIC or a health professional for specific information relating to your circumstances and your child.