## Dog Safety Rules

**Objective**
To learn about safety around dogs and about dog bite prevention.

**Materials**
- Activity Sheet Yes or No?
- Sentence strips and pocket chart

### Activity Procedure

**National Standards:**
- **Science**
  - 4.3 Life Science
- **English**
  - 12.3 Evaluation strategies
  - 12.4 Communications skills
  - 12.6 Language structure

**Before You Begin:**
Write each of the following animal safety rules on a sentence strip. Then cut apart each rule word by word.

- Stay calm around dogs.
- Always ask permission before petting a dog.
- When meeting a new dog, stand still and let it come to you.
- Be kind to pets, and do not pull on their tails or ears.
- When your dog is playing with a toy, do not take the toy away.
- Be careful around a mother dog with puppies.
- Be quiet around sleeping dogs.
- Let your dog finish eating before you pet or play with it.

1. Ask the children if any of them has ever been bitten by a dog. Ask for one or two volunteers to share their experiences.
2. Ask the children: Why do you think dogs bite people? Review with students some of the reasons dog may bite. (Possible answers: They get too excited while playing and do it accidentally; they become protective over their dishes or toys; they want to protect their home and their owner from strangers; mother dogs want to protect their babies; they are in pain because they are sick or injured; or they are frightened.)
3. Explain that most dogs are friendly and won’t bite, but it’s important to learn some safety rules when playing with dogs to avoid being bitten.
4. Write the rules (above) on the board and review them with the children.
5. Place one of the cut-apart sentence strips in the pocket chart. Read it aloud to students. Ask students what is wrong with the rule. Let the children help you to put the words back in the correct order. Encourage the children to use capital letters and punctuation as clues. Repeat for all of the sentence strips.
6. Distribute copies of the Activity Sheet and ask students to complete it. Then discuss how to turn the unsafe situations into safe ones.

(Answers: 1. yes, 2. no, 3. no, 4. yes, 5. yes, 6. no, 7. no, 8. no)
Yes or No?

Do you know how to stay safe around dogs? Look at each picture. Does it show a child being safe? Write YES or NO under each.

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 
7. 
8. 

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