



Pets & Children:

Teach children not to...

- ✓ tease pets.
- ✓ bother a pet who is sleeping or eating.
- ✓ pull on a pet's fur, tail or ears.
- ✓ interact with pets inside parked cars or in fenced in areas.

Special considerations for dogs:

- Children should never “play doggie” with your dog. Crawling on all fours, barking and growling can further confuse an already confusing situation for your dog. It takes time for dogs to learn that youngsters are little people, not subordinate dogs or prey.
- Parents should not leave young children alone with dogs. Dogs do not understand the squeals or cries of children and can get frightened. Scared dogs can react aggressively.
- Smaller, more fragile breeds of dogs may be unintentionally hurt by enthusiastic toddlers who think the dog is a plaything and, therefore, indestructible.

Special considerations for cats:

- Be sure that children are aware that a cat is a sensitive, living creature.
- Teach them how to hold the cat properly - never by the scruff of the neck or by the legs, but with one hand under his chest and the other supporting his hindquarters.
- Tail pulling and poking will frighten the cat and even a normally gentle one may scratch or bite to defend himself.