

ANIMAL BITE PREVENTION GUIDE FOR PARENTS

Dear Parent:

Today, Safe Kids Lycoming County or _____ presented a program on animal bite prevention to your child's group/class. The presenters reviewed animal safety rules and showed them two defensive measures to help prevent serious dog bite wounds. Ask your child to show you their activity materials and tell you what they have learned. Your children should tell you the following:

- Do not approach stray dogs, cats or wild animals - Leave them alone!
- Report the presence of any stray animal or wild animals to the nearest adult so that animal control authorities can be notified.
- If a stray dog approaches you, BE A TREE! Stand straight with feet together & fists held under your neck & elbows tucked into the chest. Don't look the dog directly in the eye, as this angers some dogs.
- If a dog knocks you down, ACT LIKE A LOG! Face down, legs together, with folded fists covering the back of the neck & forearms covering the ears.
- NEVER bother any dog when s/he is eating (not even your own dog).
- NEVER enter a dog's territory - his yard, home or car - if s/he growls at you. Back up slowly & wait for an adult to help
- Leave wild animals alone. They may look cuddly, but may bite you if you touch them.

We hope these tips are helpful & invite you to call if you have any questions we have not answered.

Please call _____ at Safe Kids Lycoming County with any questions and call the Pennsylvania Department of Health at _____ to report animal bites.