Children’s best friends are often their family pets, and their first confidants and playmates may have four legs. Since dogs are an important aspect of children’s lives, every child should be taught how to behave safely around dogs.

Teach children not to:

- Tease a dog
- Bother a dog who is sleeping or eating
- Pull on a dog’s fur, tail, or ears

Parents should not leave young children alone with dogs. Dogs do not understand the squeals or cries of children and could get frightened.

Also, smaller, more fragile breeds may be unintentionally hurt by over eager toddlers who think the dogs are toys.

For more information on safety around dogs, visit the AKC web site.

www.akc.org