

**R** **Respect:** Respect a dog when it needs time alone. Don't bother a dog when it is hurt, eating, sleeping, feeding pups or playing with a toy. Don't stare or put your face close to a dog's face. To a dog, this might mean that you want to hurt it. Never tease or play rough with a dog.

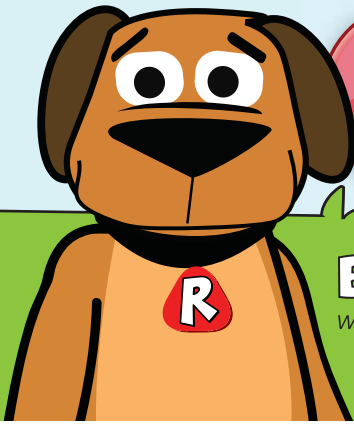
**U** **Understanding:** Understand that dogs communicate differently than humans. They say "hello" in a different way, usually by sniffing you. To say "hello," to a dog, gently put the back of your hand just in front of the dog's nose and allow the dog to sniff you.

**F** **Friendly:** How do you know if a dog is friendly? Some happy dogs smile with their tails. They wag their tails and may want to lick you. Friendly dogs have a happy look. When they are with their owners, they love to be around people. Happy dogs obey their owners.

**U** **Unfriendly:** Stay away from unfriendly dogs. An unfriendly dog might growl, bark, show its teeth, make its body stiff, point its ears, and/or stare at you. Hair on the backs of dogs may stand up when they are mad or afraid. So don't go near them.

**S** **Stay Away:** Kids, stay away from a dog that is not with an adult. Stay away from a dog that is behind a fence or in a car. Also stay away from dogs that are working, such as a seeing-eye dog or a police dog.





R U F U S

**Be Safe Around Dogs.**

[www.vet.utk.edu/dogbiteprevention](http://www.vet.utk.edu/dogbiteprevention)



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