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Ward Child Injured In Dog Attack

A five-year-old girl is recovering after being mauled by a dog while playing at her home near Ward. The attack happened around 3:00 p.m. Monday afternoon.

Sharon Thompson says it wasn't long after her family moved to Kenzie Drive in Ward before they discovered the stray dog problem.

"Immediately we hadn't lived here a week when they got our cat and we knew it was them that had gotten the black and white cat," says Thompson.

Thompson says she didn't think the two dogs that wander the neighborhood were a threat to people until late Monday afternoon.

Lonoke County's Sheriff Jim Roberson says a black lab attacked a five-year-old playing in her backyard. "It's a very serious attack. From what I've been told by medical personnel the little girl has been in surgery for three and a half hours. It's a very bad situation for a young child," describes Roberson.

After the attack, neighbors tied up the lab at a neighboring house until Ward Animal Control came to get it because Lonoke County had no where to put it. "Dogs are a big problem in Lonoke County, as well as other counties I'm sure, because of the cost to maintain the shelters and such. We just don't have one in the county," explains Roberson.

Thompson feels better since the Lab thought to be responsible for the attack is in custody, but with another stray dog on the loose, she says her son won't be going outside alone anytime soon. "I am concerned because of the dog issue and something happening to him. This could have been Grant just as easy as it could have been Abby," says Thompson.

Police are questioning neighbors to find out if anyone owns the dog that attacked the little girl.

Robert Bell, Executive Producer
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