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Baby's injuries minor after dog bite

Advocate staff report

NEWARK — A 15-month-old boy bitten in the face Wednesday by a dog was released from the hospital a short time later, his mother said.

Victor Topp grabbed the face of the family pet of 10 years, and the dog simply snapped back, she said. Topp had minor cuts, but did not require stitches, she said.

She hopes to get the dog, Tipper, a heeler, back from the county dog shelter and give it to a family friend, she said.

Otherwise, the dog could be euthanized, Newark Dog Warden Toby Wills said.

It is the second time the dog, which is similar to a border collie, has bitten a member of the family, he said.

"It's hard for them to try to get a dog (like that) adopted out," he said.

Heeler dogs typically live on farms and are used to herd cattle by biting their heels, earning the "heeler" name, Wills said.
