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Nov 27, 2007 4:41 pm US/Central

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## Preventing Bites: Kids Learn How To Act Near Dogs



Reporting Darcy Pohland

A rash of life threatening and deadly dog attacks has a canine crew taking action.

Rotta Love Plus is on a mission to teach children ways to prevent dog bites.

The Hotweiler and Pit Bull rescue group brings highly trained dogs from the so called "bully breeds" to teach children how to protect themselves from attacks and how to act around all dogs.

A number of children at Jenny Lind Community School know about dog bites.

"Yeah we were bitten. This lady, she was looking for her dog and it came out and we ran," said 7-year-old Jayla Johnson. "It was chasing us."

They have the scars to prove it.

"It had bit me on the arm," said Johnson showing a mark on her arm. "I was scared."

It was a completely different kind of dog they encountered at the training Tuesday.

"She's a registered therapy dog with Therapy Dogs International," said Pit Bull owner, Britt Horob.

Madeline came to the north Minneapolis school to teach the kids doggie dos and don'ts.

"We'll talk about basically, how to stay safe around dogs -- what a stray dog is, and what to do if a stray dog approaches you," said Rotta Love Plus Volunteer, Kellie Dillner.

Volunteers use dogs like Madeline to show kids what to do if a dog charges toward them.

"Stand tight like a tree ... and when Madeline comes up, don't look at her," said Dillner.

She also said you should curl up if a dog knocks you down on the ground.

"You want to cover your head so the dog can't get to your head," she said.

They students learned what not to do too.

"You should not scream or run," said Johnson.

The goal of the program is to teach kids to bark, be aware, responsible and kind.

The kids get to take the lessons they've learned home with them.

"I learned if a dog is coming after you, just stand quiet like a tree and if they knock you over, you gotta curl up like a rock," said Johnson.

Rotta Love Plus also did a dog bite prevention training session recently for the family of 7-year-old Zach King Jr., who was killed by his pet pit bull last summer.

To see a list of doggie dos and don'ts, click [here](#).

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Madeline came to the north Minneapolis school to teach the kids doggie dos and don'ts. CBS

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