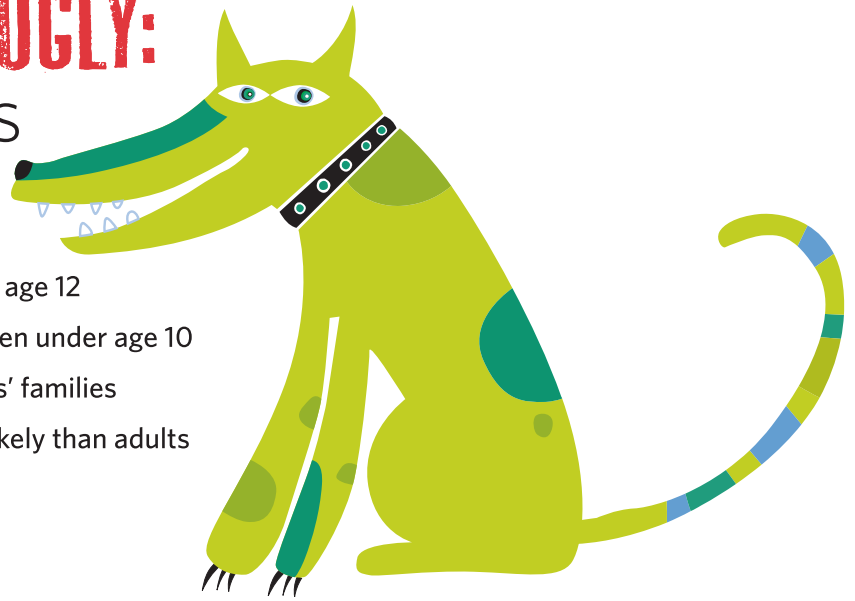






WHEN CUDDLY TURNS UGLY:





Preventing Dog Bites






Did you know that approximately:

-  50 percent of dog bites involve children under age 12
-  77 percent of dog bite fatalities occur in children under age 10
-  77 percent of biting-dogs belong to the victims' families
-  unsupervised newborns are 370 times more likely than adults to be killed by a dog






How to greet a dog

-  approach the dog and owner slowly
-  ask for permission to pet the dog
-  make a fist and extend the hand upward slowly
-  pet the dog under the chin or chest

What to do if you are chased by a dog — be a tree

-  Stop; stand still; remain calm
-  Fold in your arms or branches
-  Watch your roots grow and count in your head

If a dog bites:

-  Contain the dog and assist the victim
-  Wash the bite area with warm soapy water if possible
-  Immediately contact a medical professional
-  Contact the dog's veterinarian (if known) and local authorities
-  Provide the dog's medical vaccine record



Tips for Dog Owners

- Never leave a child unsupervised with a dog.
- Put the dog through basic obedience training.
- Allow the dog to meet and interact with different types of people in calm situations.
- Expose the dog to other animals, loud noises, bicycles, and anything else that might cause fear.
- Do not discipline with physical, violent, or aggressive punishments.
- Always keep the dog on a leash or in fenced in areas.
- Keep vaccines current.
- Always praise and reward the dog for good behavior.
- Never allow a child to bother a dog while eating.