



KIDS AND PETS CAN MIX!

A pet can be a child's best friend. Teaching kids to respect animals helps keep everyone safe and happy.

Always consider:

- Each child's age and abilities
- The age and breed of each pet
- The need for supervision at all times!

Toddlers and pre-schoolers:

- Can help with feeding and brushing
- Can help teach commands and tricks
- Must be taught to wash hands after handling pets
- Must be taught not to hit, push or pull at a pet's ears, paws, tail or fur
- Must be taught how to lift, pat and approach pets
- Enjoy playing with pets but must be supervised. Many pets will put up with a lot but limits must be set.

School-aged kids:

- Can provide more care but still need supervision and reminders
- Can take pets for walks
- Can learn more by taking classes. Show classes and those focusing on obedience, agility and fly ball are great examples.

Remember, supervision is key!