



## **Be Kind Belize Dog Safety Workshop**

This workshop includes group discussions, worksheets and role play scenarios. The group discussions and worksheets can be used as a stand-alone classroom or group activity if there is no time for the role play scenarios.

**Recommended Group Size:** 10 – 30 young people

**Ages:** 8 – 12

**Time Needed:** 45 minutes for group discussions and worksheets; 45 minutes for role play scenarios

**Materials required:** Be Kind Belize Dog Safety fact sheets; Be Kind Belize Understanding Dog Body Language fact sheet; Be Kind Belize Dog Safety worksheets; pencils

### **Aim**

To help young people learn how to be safer around dogs both at home and on the streets.

### **Group Discussion**

Ask children if they have ever been bitten by a dog and if they would like to share their experience and feelings. Encourage and support them when they do this. Do not make criticisms of what they may have done wrong, just allow them to share.

## **Activity**

Following the discussion review the Dog Safety and Dog Body Language fact sheets with the whole group. Then provide each young person with a Dog Safety Worksheet. They may work as individuals or in groups to complete the worksheet and what they have learned from the discussion and fact sheets. Once they have all completed it, the entire group should go through the correct answers together.

## **Dog Safety Role Playing**

Split the young people into small groups of 3-4 students and assign each group with one of the scenarios outlined below. Ask for volunteers or assign one young person from each group with the role of the dog. Explain that this is an important role and that they can be any sort of dog that they would like to be and that they can even be talking dogs. Once roles have been assigned, ask the young people to spend some time planning how they wish to act out their scenario.

Ask the young people to produce two short role playing dramas. 1) One of the young people is bitten by the dog because of their behaviour and 2) One of the young people is not bitten by the dog because of their behaviour.

Ask the groups to base each scenario on the things they learned from the Dog Safety fact sheet and the Dog Body Language fact sheet. They will perform their role play to the rest of the students. Afterward each group has performed have all of the students discuss the scenario to help them understand why the dog bit or didn't bite.

### Scenarios:

1. A loose dog that they do not know.
2. When they see a dog sleeping.
3. When they see a dog behind a fence or on a chain.
4. A dog that is eating
5. A dog that has puppies.
6. A dog that is in a golf cart, car or truck.
7. When a dog was anxious.
8. When a dog was angry..

## **Educational Benefits**

The Dog Safety Workshop complements lessons in Science, Social Studies and Health.