

# Animal Bites and Scratches

If your child is bitten or scratched by an animal, the wound can get infected. Clean the wound right away and get medical help as soon as possible. Even if the animal is your family pet, you should follow these steps:

1. Wash the wound well with soap and water.
2. Put pressure on the area to stop the bleeding.
3. When bleeding stops, put an antibiotic cream such as Neosporin on the wound.
4. Cover the bite or scratch with a clean bandage.
5. Get medical help the same day if possible.

Human bites should receive the same first aid and prompt medical attention as an animal bite.

Your child will be given a tetanus vaccine if he or she has not had one in the past 5 years.

Follow the treatment your child's doctor orders. Each day, until the wound heals, remove the bandage and check the wound. Clean the wound with soap and water each day and put on a clean bandage until the wound heals.

## **Call your child's doctor if:**

- The wound is red, swollen, warm to the touch, or more painful.
- There is more drainage or a bad odor from the wound.
- Your child has a fever over 101 degrees F by mouth.

# Mordeduras y rasguños de animales

Si a su hijo lo muerde o rasguña un animal, la herida puede infectarse. Limpie la herida de inmediato y busque ayuda médica lo antes posible. Debe seguir los siguientes pasos, incluso si el animal es su mascota:

1. Lave bien la herida con agua y jabón.
2. Presione el área para detener el sangrado.
3. Cuando se detenga el sangrado, aplique una crema antibiótica como Neosporin en la herida.
4. Cubra la mordedura o el rasguño con un vendaje limpio.
5. Busque ayuda médica el mismo día si es posible.

Las mordeduras humanas deben recibir los mismos primeros auxilios y atención médica oportuna que una mordedura de animal.

Su hijo recibirá una vacuna contra el tétanos si no lo ha hecho en los últimos 5 años.

Siga el tratamiento que el médico de su hijo ordene. Todos los días, hasta que la herida cicatrice, quite el vendaje y revise la herida. Limpie la herida con agua y jabón todos los días y coloque un vendaje limpio hasta que la herida cicatrice.

## **Llame al médico de su hijo si:**

- la herida está roja, hinchada, si siente que está caliente o duele más;
- hay más secreción o sale mal olor de la herida;
- su hijo tiene fiebre que supera los 101 °F (38 °C) en la boca.

## **What to do about the animal:**

Call your doctor **right away** if you do not know the owner of the animal that bit your child. The animal may have rabies. If the animal was tame, try to find its owner. Find out if the animal has had shots for rabies, and the date the shots were done. If possible, put the animal in a fenced area away from people and other animals for 10 days. Watch for any changes in behavior.

**Do not try to cage a vicious or wild animal.** Call the police or animal control department.

A child who has been bitten by a bat or has slept in a room with one **must see a doctor.**

## **Safety Around Animals**

Teach your child to be safe around animals. Here are some safety tips to teach your child:

- Never bother an animal when it is eating.
- Do not pull on your pet's ears or tail.
- Pick up your pets slowly.
- Wash your hands after petting an animal.
- Do not feed wild animals or animals you do not know.
- Young children should not put their hands in an animal's tank or cage.
- Tell an adult if you are bitten by an animal.
- Keep pets on a leash.

## **Qué hacer con respecto al animal:**

Llame a su médico **de inmediato** si no sabe quién es el dueño del animal que mordió a su hijo. El animal puede tener rabia. Si el animal era domesticado, intente encontrar a su dueño. Averigüe si el animal ha sido vacunado contra la rabia y la fecha en que fue vacunado. Si es posible, ponga al animal en un área cercada alejado de las personas y de otros animales durante 10 días. Esté atento a cualquier cambio en el comportamiento.

**No intente enjaular a un animal feroz o salvaje.** Llame a la policía o al Departamento de Control de Animales.

Un niño que ha sido mordido por un murciélago o ha dormido en la misma habitación donde hay uno **debe consultar a un médico.**

## **Seguridad alrededor de animales**

Enséñele a su hijo a no arriesgarse con los animales. A continuación, encontrará algunos consejos para la protección personal para enseñarle a su hijo:

- Nunca molestes a un animal cuando está comiendo.
- No tires de las orejas o la cola de tu mascota.
- Levanta a tus mascotas lentamente.
- Lávate las manos después de acariciar a un animal.
- No alimentes a animales salvajes o animales que no conoces.
- Los niños pequeños no deben poner las manos en un tanque de agua con animales o en una jaula de animales.
- Infórmele a un adulto si te muerde un animal.
- Mantén a las mascotas con correa.

### **If a dog is threatening:**

- **Never scream and run.**
- **Stand very still** with hands at your sides. **Avoid eye contact** with the dog. When the dog loses interest in you, slowly back away until he is out of sight.
- If the dog does attack, place your jacket, book bag, or anything you can between you and the dog.
- If you fall or are knocked to the ground, curl into a ball with your hands over your ears and do not move. Try not to scream or roll around.
- Always **walk away** if a dog is growling or begins to growl when approached. **Never run!**

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## Si un perro lo amenaza:

- **Nunca grite ni corra.**
- **Quédese muy quieto** con las manos a los lados. **Evite el contacto visual** con el perro. Cuando el perro pierda el interés en usted, retroceda lentamente hasta que esté fuera de su vista.
- Si el perro lo ataca, ponga su chaqueta, mochila o cualquier cosa que tenga a mano entre usted y el perro.
- Si cae o si lo tira al suelo, adopte una posición acurrucada con las manos sobre sus orejas y no se mueva. Intente no gritar ni rodar.
- Siempre **aléjese** si un perro está gruñendo o comienza a gruñir cuando se acerca. **¡Nunca corra!**

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Animal Bites and Scratches. Spanish