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Educational Kits

Safety Around Dogs, Your Safety Begins with You! and *Best Friends* are two excellent resources for educators. The links below will take you to more information on each item.



Best Friends

Best Friends contains a 12-minute video, lesson plan ideas and copymasters. The American Kennel Club designed *Best Friends* to work with an elementary school curriculum, and teachers can integrate the copymasters into reading, writing and math lessons.

[More information](#)



Safety Around Dogs Video

The AKC designed *Safety Around Dogs, Your Safety Begins with You!* for children in grades K-6. The kit, featuring an activity book and video, is offered to teachers, librarians, youth group leaders, animal control officers, animal shelters, veterinarians and community and civic leaders.

[More information](#)



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Best Friends

Children love dogs. Many children ask their parents for a dog and promise to take care of it forever and ever. Children can become good, responsible dog owners, but they must be taught the correct way to take care of their dog.

With this in mind, the American Kennel Club created the *Best Friends* program in 1993. Since then this educational program about responsible dog ownership has reached hundreds of thousands of school children nationwide through more than 60,000 elementary schools.

Best Friends contains a 12-minute video, lesson plan ideas and copymasters. The video features children teaching other children the fundamentals of responsible dog ownership including proper grooming techniques, the importance of basic obedience training and regular veterinary visits.

The American Kennel Club designed *Best Friends* to work with an elementary school curriculum, and teachers can integrate the copymasters into reading, writing and math lessons.

The American Kennel Club also offers a list of AKC-affiliated club volunteers who are available to make presentations about canine safety, and other dog-related topics, to groups of children. These volunteers, called Canine Ambassadors, usually make presentations with their dogs.

For more information about the *Best Friends* program or to obtain a list of Canine Ambassadors in your state, please contact the AKC Public Education department at publiced@akc.org.

If you would like to order your school or youth group a copy of *Best Friends*, please e-mail orderdesk@akc.org. Remember to include your name, school or affiliation (for example, the Boys and Girls Club), mailing address and daytime phone.

The American Kennel Club will only ship to the continental United States, Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico. Please call AKC Customer Service 919-233-9767 (8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time) if you need to arrange shipment to a foreign country, including Mexico and Canada. The AKC will charge a \$10 shipping fee to all foreign countries.



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Safety Around Dogs Video
AKC Offers Program for Children's Safety Around Dogs

Children and dogs go together like peanut butter and jelly. A child's first best friend is often the family pet. Yet too frequently our nation's children are not taught how to be safe around dogs.

We teach children to look both ways before crossing the street and to never accept rides or candy from strangers, and we must also teach them how to be safe around dogs.

With this in the mind, the American Kennel Club created *Safety Around Dogs, Your Safety Begins with You!* This program contains a 14-minute video and an activity copymaster booklet. The video and booklet teach children how to properly greet a dog, what to do when they see a loose dog and how to understand a dog's body language, among other topics.

The AKC designed *Safety Around Dogs, Your Safety Begins with You!* for children in grades K-6. The kit is offered to teachers, librarians, youth group leaders, animal control officers, animal shelters, veterinarians and community and civic leaders.

The American Kennel Club also offers a list of AKC-affiliated club volunteers who are available to make presentations about canine safety, and other dog-related topics, to groups of children. These volunteers, called Canine Ambassadors, usually make presentations with their dogs.

For more information about the AKC's safety program or to obtain a list of Canine Ambassadors in your state, please contact the Public Education department at publiced@akc.org.

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