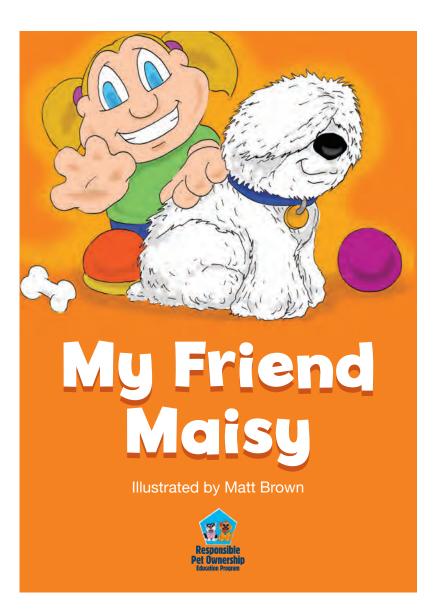


My Friend Maisy Picture Chat

Discussion notes for My Friend Maisy for teachers to use to enhance children's learnings and understandings about Living Safely with Pets.





INTENTIONAL TEACHING POINT TWO

There are times when we should leave dogs alone

Background

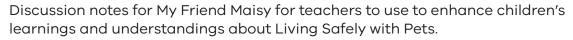
Research clearly shows that there are certain situations where young children are at a higher risk of being bitten by a dog. Accordingly, the Program educates children not to approach dogs at these times and provides them with alternative strategies.

This should be taught in conjunction with Intentional Teaching Point Three – There are things we should not do to dogs.

Learning Outcome

The children understand that dogs should be left alone in a range of potential high-risk situations.

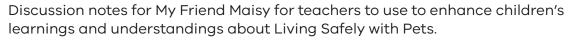






Picture	Discussion points	Questions
Introduces the characters Jenny and Maisy the dog.	Dogs and people are different. Dogs do not have hands or voices like us. We communicate differently. We think differently.	What can you see in this picture? Where are Jenny and Maisy? Who can tell me the differences between a dog and a person? How do we let people know we are happy, sad, and angry? How do you think a dog tells us that it is happy, sad and angry?
Backyard scene with a parent and child sharing a game with the dog. Ball is going over the fence.	The best time to play with a dog is when mum and dad are with us. Children need strategies other than climbing over the fence, or opening a gate, to get the ball.	Who is playing in the backyard? Why do you think Jenny's Dad is outside? What games do you like to play in your backyard? What is on the other side of the fence? How could Jenny get the ball back if it went next door?
Four pictures showing: Jenny and Maisy asleep Jenny and Maisy eating.	If you frighten the dog while it is asleep it might think it is in danger and bite to get away. Dogs will protect their food. If you go too close they might think you are trying to take it.	What can you see Jenny and Maisy doing in these pictures? What would you do if someone came in yelling while you were asleep? What do you think a dog would do? What could you do to wake the dog so it would not be frightened? How would you feel if you thought someone was going to take your favourite food away from you? Why do you think we should never go near a dog while it is eating? What do you think we should do if you saw a dog eating?

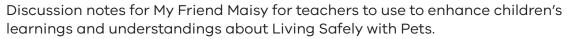






Picture	Discussion points	Questions
Four pictures showing: Dog and child sick Dog and child with baby/ puppies.	Dogs cannot tell us they are sick or hurt. Like us they just want to lie quietly. They might get angry if you don't let them. Dogs are very protective of their young. We should never go near a mother and her puppies.	How does Jenny look? What tells you that Jenny is sick? What do you like to do when you are not well or hurt? How would Maisy's owners know she was unwell? Would Maisy need to rest when she was unwell? Why? How would you feel if people were not allowing you to rest? What might you do? What do we call baby dogs? What would Mum and Dad do if a stranger came up to your baby brother or sister? How do you think a dog would do if a stranger came up to her puppies?
Park scene with a child asking to pat. There is also a dog tied to a park bench in the background.	Child asking if he can pat Maisy. He is in front of Jenny and her parents so that they and the dog can see him. A grown up should always be with you when walking the dog. There is a dog tied to a park bench with no owner. Dogs that are not with their owners, and on a leash, should never be approached.	Who can you see in this picture? Why is Jenny walking Maisy with her parents? What do you think the boy is asking? Why is it a good idea to ask before patting? Why do you think Mum or Dad should go with you when walking the dog? Why do you think we should not go near the dog tied to the bench? What could happen if we tried to pat this dog?

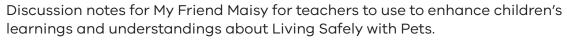






Picture	Discussion points	Questions
Child stroking the dog on the back with the parent holding the dog on the lead.	Emphasize the correct way to pat. The dog must be on leash with its owner. Ask the owner. Keeping his face away from the dog's face. Pat on the back /shoulder not on the head. Do not hug the dog around the neck.	Why is it OK to pat this dog? (On leash and with its owner). What do you have to ask the owner? Where is it safe to pat a dog?
Footpath scene. Aggressive dog approaching. A dog is on the back of a Ute.	Being approached by an angry dog is frightening and the first reaction is often to try and run away. We have to be very brave and stand still. You should never approach a dog in a car or tied to one.	Do you think Jenny and her mum look frightened? Why? How do you know that this dog is angry? How do you think you would feel if an angry dog came up to you? What do you think would happen if Jenny and her mum tried to run away? Who do you think can run faster, the dog or Jenny? Do you think it would be safe to go up and pat this dog?







Picture	Discussion points	Questions		
Footpath scene demonstrating correct way to act if approached by an aggressive dog. There is a boy looking over the fence.	 We need to Stand still Keep your hands down. Stay as quiet as a mouse. Look at the ground not the dog. It is dangerous to climb on fences because the dog could jump causing him to overbalance and fall perhaps into the same area as the dog. 	What are Jenny and her mum doing? Do you think they might be scared? Why? Why is it not safe to • Wave your arms around? • Scream and yell? • Stare at the dog? What is the boy doing? Why should you not climb fences? What could the angry dog try and do to this boy?		
Footpath scene showing Jenny and her mother backing away.	You should remain very still and quiet until the dog has lost interest and gone away. Slowly back up to make sure the dog doesn't come back.	What has happened to the dog? Why have Jenny and her mum waited until the dog has gone away? Why are they backing away and not running?		
Family with the dog.	Revisit some of the key teaching points from this story of Jenny and Maisy.	Can you tell some things we need to do when we want to say hello to a dog? Is it safe to go up and pat a strange dog? What do you do if you see an angry dog?		



www.pettown.nsw.gov.au

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For further information contact

Office of Local Government

Phone 1800 000 776 Email: info@pets.nsw.gov.au

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