Brief report: Don't kiss a sleeping dog: The first assessment of "the blue dog" bite prevention program

Meints K., De Keuster T.
Department of Psychology, University of Lincoln, Brayford Pool, Lincoln LN6 7TS, United Kingdom

Abstract: Objective The authors attempted to remedy the current lack of empirically evaluated dog-bite prevention programs for children under 7 by assessing children's learning success with the "Blue Dog" CD.

Methods Ninety-six 3-, 4-, 5-, and 6-year-old children used the interactive CD in an initial exposure phase, a training and a testing phase. Half received verbal feedback, and the other half additional practice with parents. All children were re-tested after 2 weeks.

Results There were significant increases in safe choices after the training phase at all ages, with older children performing better than younger children. Children still retained their ability to make safe choices after 2 weeks. Interestingly, children practicing with parents performed better than others when under 6 years. Verbal feedback did not play a role, the CD is equally effective without.

Conclusions Children learned successfully about safe behavior with dogs; thus, the CD can help educate children about dog-bite prevention.

Author Keywords: Accidents and injuries; Children; Educational interventions; Health behavior; Prevention/control.

Year: 2009
Source title: Journal of Pediatric Psychology
Volume: 34
Issue: 10
Page: 1084-1090
Cited by: 6
Link: Scopus Link
Document Type: Article
Source: Scopus

References: