Read the Signs!

The canine ladder of aggression.

Dogs communicate their stress and anxiety in situations with their body language. It is important to catch the signs of stress and aggression to prevent a bite from happening. This ladder shows the cues your dog may give when escalating to a bite. It is best to remove the dog from the situation if you see them escalating up the ladder.

Snaps

Growls

Stiffens, Stares

Lies Down, Leg Up

Stands Crouched, Tucks Tail Under



Creeps, Ears Back

Walks Away

Turn Body Away, Sits, Paw

Turns Head Away

Blinks, Yawns, Licks Nose