Global Alliance for Rabies Control

All about Rabies
• Rabies is caused by a **virus**.

• You can get rabies virus if an animal bites you, usually a dog

• Rabies can also be passed from animal to animal

• The rabies virus makes your body stop working

**YOU can Stop Rabies!**
These animals can get rabies:

- Cattle
- Horses
- Dogs
- Cats
- Mongoose

They are all mammals.
Only mammals can get rabies. Mammals are warm blooded animals, with fur or hair and produce live young.
These animals cannot get rabies:

- **Birds**
- **Fish**
- **Snake**
- **Crocodile**

They are not mammals.

They cannot give you rabies.
How do animals and people get rabies?

- **Saliva**
  - through bites,
  - licking, scratching

- **Blood**
- **Faeces**
- **Urine**

You cannot get rabies just by touching an animal with rabies
If an animal with rabies bites you, the rabies virus can get into your body.

The virus attacks the central nervous system.

It makes your body stop working.
If you think an animal has rabies, do not touch it or try to feed it.

Tell an adult who can call an animal control officer to take care of the animal safely.
Never disturb a dog that is:

- Caring for puppies
- Sleeping
- Eating
Keep away from wildlife. Don’t encourage a wild animal to come up to you by feeding it.

It might seem tame and allow you to get close, but remember that this is not the way wild animals usually act. Something could be wrong.
Stay away from animals that you do not know.

Remember... Stray animals may not be vaccinated against rabies.
If a dog comes close to you:

Stand still
Keep quiet

Keep your arms down and your hands folded

Imagine you are a tree

Look at your feet

Count in your head to the highest number you know, over and over again, until the dog goes away.
If a dog attacks you:

Curl up into a ball, with your head tucked in

Keep still and quiet

Put your hands over the back of your neck

Imagine you are a rock
If you get bitten:

- Immediately wash the wound really well with soap and lots of water
- Tell an adult
- See a doctor

You will be given medicine to make sure that you don’t get rabies.
The doctor will:

- Clean the wound properly
- Give you anti-rabies vaccinations

The vaccinations will help to stop the virus from attacking your body

It is important that you do everything the doctor says
If your pet is bitten:

Take your pet to a vet who will decide what is best for the animal.
Stop Rabies!

1. Get your pet vaccinated
2. Sterilise your pet
3. Do not let your pet go wherever it likes
4. Keep a lid on rubbish
5. Get help to remove stray animals
You can Stop Rabies!

Let’s make rabies history!

rabiesalliance.org/world-rabies-day