My Friend Toby
Bat Bites!
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I hope Jimmy likes these cookies my Mom and I made for him.
After finding out he has to get 5 shots there is nothing better than cookies to make him smile.
Hi Lupita, thank you for coming! And who is your friend?
This is Toby, he works for Maricopa County Animal Care and Control and he knows lots about animals, how to take care of them and how to deal with wild animal encounters.
Wow, that's great. Thanks for coming Toby!
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Hi Lupita, hi Toby, how are you?
I'm fine! The question is how aaaaaare you?! Tell us what happened, please.
Well, I was at recess playing with my friend Tom...
Hey Jimmy, would you like to see something really cool?
Of course! Let´s go!
Look...
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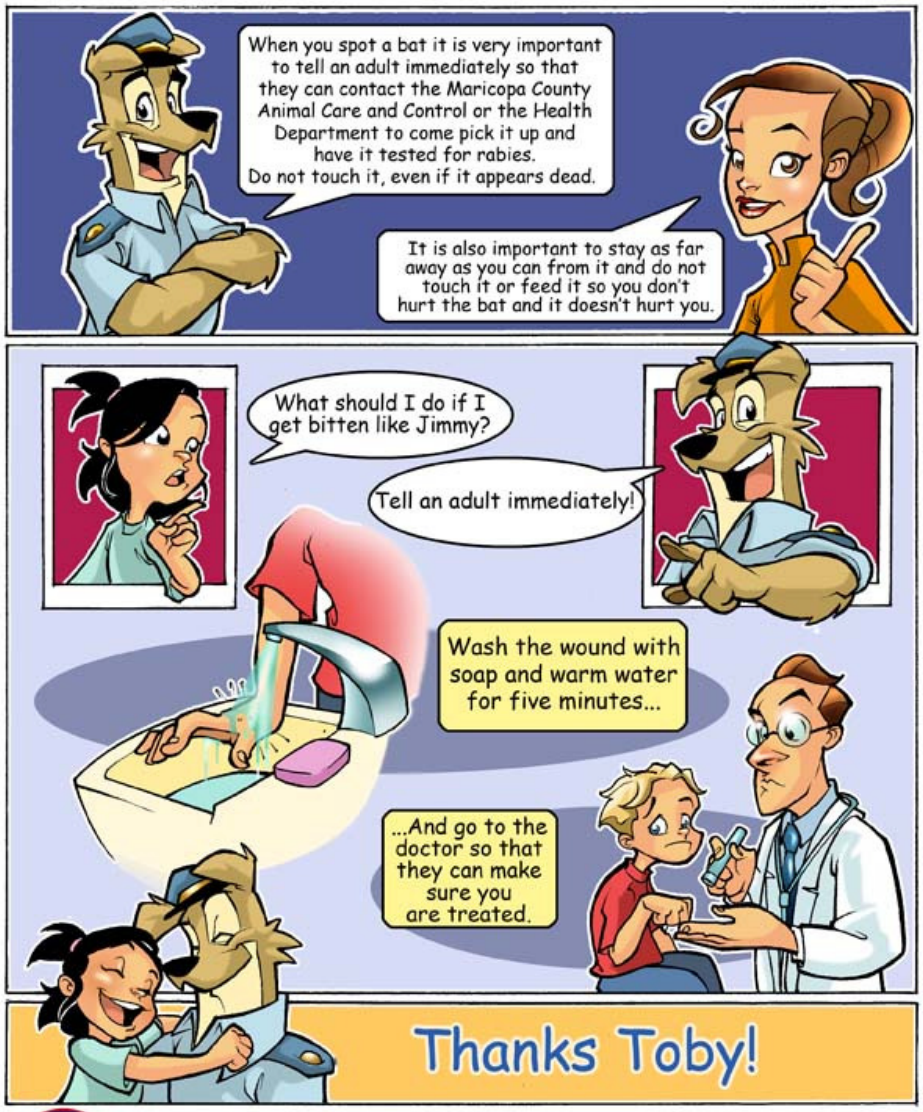
It´s a bat!
I dare you to touch it!
Scary cat!
He won't do it!
You are afraid!
He is scared!
Jimmy is scared!
Stop it!
Stop teasing me! I am not afraid of anything, I´m going to touch it...
But little did I know that this was the dumbest thing to do.
Ouuuch! It bit me!

Didn't do it
It wasn´t me
It wasn´t me
You know, the bite didn't hurt much...
...So I just went back to class...
...But when I got home and told my Mom what had happened, she rushed me to the doctor.
Jimmy, I am really sorry but we will have to give you 5 shots...
¡GULP!
Five Shots? Noooooooo!

Oooouch! That´s gotta hurt.
So what happened at school? Did you tell anybody at school about the bat?
No, I really didn't think much about it. I just thought it was funny. But my mom called them and I think they captured it.
Well it sounds funny but you have to keep in mind:
Bats are wild animals...
...And they may carry an infectious disease called rabies. Although the bite seems harmless you can get rabies not only from bites but also from the infected saliva getting into eyes, nose, or an open wound.

So are bats bad, Toby?
We are not bad. We are just small animals, and we don't know how to interact with humans. That is why we prefer not to be disturbed. You know bats are actually good for the environment since...
...We eat a lot of night insects...
...We scatter seeds and pollinate many plants.
The thing is that bats sometimes get into areas where there are people. A bat that is out during the day or on the ground may be sick or might have rabies.
So what should I do if I see a bat again, Toby?



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Please get your pets vaccinated against rabies!

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