
Puppy Preschool Clicker Class
Session Three Homework

Socialization and Introduction to New Things:

Introduce your puppy to 5-10 new people.

Introduce your puppy to something new that rolls (bicycle, skateboard, roller blades)

Introduce your puppy to a good-natured adult dog (check with friend, neighbor, family member)

New Behaviors:

Take Hold of Collar – Begin teaching your puppy to be comfortable having you take hold of her collar. Begin by reaching for your puppy's collar. If the puppy backs up, use less movement (reach partially towards the collar) until you can reach all the way and touch the collar. (Remember building a behavior through small increments is fine. Go ahead and take baby steps!) Eventually, you can ask your puppy to "sit" and, then, reach out and take hold of the collar before you click or treat. This exercise is designed to prevent the puppy from backing away when you reach for his collar.

Down – Begin teaching your puppy to lie down this week. This is another easy behavior to capture (like sit), or you can use a lure. Once she is getting the behavior, use your hand as the lure and get rid of the food in your hand. Small puppies and puppies with short legs can be guided under your leg as demonstrated in class to begin getting this behavior if necessary. For some "low rider dogs" like Dachshunds, luring is not all that effective because their nose is already on the ground!

Leave-It/Take-It – Begin teaching "leave-it/take-it" this week. Remember, there are three steps in teaching this behavior (closed hand, open hand, treat on floor). Make sure your puppy is successful at each step before you move on to the next step. Review this section in your book.

"Tug-and-Calm" Game

Begin teaching your puppy self-control. Read Chapter 4 of this book and play the "tug-and-calm" game as demonstrated in class.

Review And Expand Behaviors:

Settle – Begin getting your puppy to "settle" on the floor and on a leash this week.

Come – Continue working with "come" this week. Continue to move further apart on the relay game. You can add "hide & seek" this week.

Bite Inhibition – Work on lessening the pressure of your puppy's mouthing even more. We want them to think that people are so tender that they can hardly take any pressure at all. This week yelp or growl for any pressure whatsoever. Review the section on Bite Inhibition in Chapter 5 of this book.

Reading

Concepts:

Chapter 8

Leadership (p. 132)

Exercise (p. 137)

Chapter 3

Teaching Your Dog Self-Control (p. 27)

"Tug-and-Calm" Game (p. 31)

Behaviors:

Take Hold of Collar (p. 86)

Down (p. 83)

Leave-It/Take-It (p. 107)