

LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA  
**DOG GUIDES**  
La Fondation des Lions du Canada  
**CHIENS-GUIDES**



# Games Class

- Intro to games
- It's your choice game
- Crate game



# Benefits of Playing Puppy Games

- Mental Stimulation
- Having FUN while training
- Encouraging good behaviours



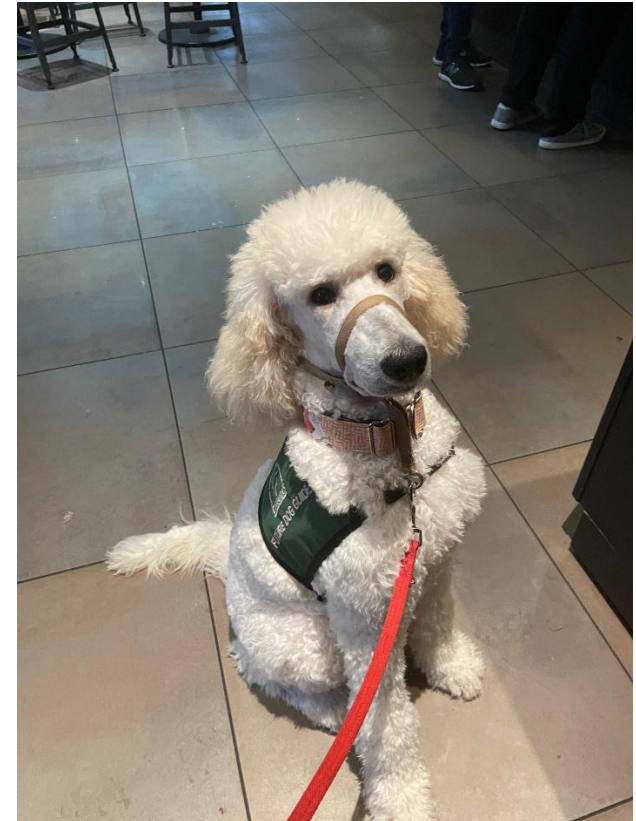
# Rules of Puppy Games

- Start in a low distraction environment
- Gradually increase difficulty
- Play with a hungry pup
- Have FUN!



# Game 1: It's Your Choice- Self Control

- Understanding how Dogs make decisions
- Power of Choice
- Work is what earns them rewards, not presence of rewards in their environment



# Layers of It's Your Choice

## 1. Food Walk By

- You being able to walk by with food in your hand
- Pup is on leash on your left side
- Avoid chaining behavior



# Food Walk By

- Step 1: walk with food in your hand. If pup tries to jump/grab/steal, hand stay closed
- Step 2: Reward only when 4 paws are on the ground. Pick kibble up with your other hand and deliver to their mouth with “YES”
- No meeting halfway





## 2. Sitting with Food

- Step 1: Sit on a chair, rest your wrist on your knee, food in your hand.
- Step 3: Open your hand, if pup tries to get it, close. Let the pup chooses next action.
- If pup stays away from the food, pick up with your other hand and deliver to pup's mouth with "YES"





### 3. But It's on the floor!

- Step 1: Sit on the ground, follow the same rules, pup should learn “rules stay the same no matter what position handler is in”
- Step 2: After rewarding few times from your hand, put kibbles on the ground. If pup tries to get food, make a tent with it.
- Step 3: when pup moves away, lift the tent and let them choose next action, if pup stays away, pick up a kibble, reward with “YES”





# Goals



# Game 2: Crate Game

- Pups choose to go into crate
- Pups wait before coming out of the crate
- Pups LOVE their crates



# Crate Game- Stage 1 (I Love My Crate)

- Lure pup into the crate and ask for “sit”, reward with “Yes”
- Reward the pup 9-10 times as long as pup is in a “sit” position, make sure each time you are closing and reopening the crate door (We want closing sound of crate door becomes positive)
- If pup breaks position, close the crate door and wait until pup goes back to sit, when they go back into sit, say “yes” and reward again. Repeat the process until pup is reliably sitting in the crate with open door





# Crate Game- Stage 2

- Increase the duration inside the crate, keep rewarding
- Release the pup with “OK” without rewarding. Stand next to the crate until pup makes a choice to go back inside to earn rewards!
- Repeat this process until pup is reliably going back in without being asked, this is when you can add “Kennel” cue





# Crate Game- Stage 3

- Increase Distraction, try dropping a kibble or toy in front of the crate while pup is sitting inside.
- Be creative! Grab leash, pretend to leave, clap, the only time pup should be coming out of the crate is with “OK!”
- Before moving onto next steps, make sure your pup is reliable in previous steps. If pup is struggling, that means you are moving too fast! We want to keep it fun





Puppy Program

# Crate Game- Final stage-Find a Crate!

- Now we are going to increase distance!  
Call the pup in the crate from a distance and say “kennel”, watch pup running back!
- We can repeat this from different direction, this will build fun to the game and create a pup who can't wait to run back inside

