Basic Obedience - Week 3

Sit/down/sit. Stand/down/stand

This week your goal is to teach your dog that even though there is not food visible (the lure), if they respond to a food free hand signal they will still be rewarded with a treat. Here's how it goes

- Put a treat in your left hand or pocket
- Use your EMPTY right hand to 'lure' dog into position
- Mark each correct response with 'yes' and give treat from left hand
- Treat is hidden in left hand or treat can come from your pocket

Don't forget to practice DOWN from a standing position. Also, take the show on the road-practice in different locations (for generalization purposes), at friends houses, in your hallway, lobby.

Hand targeting

Emergency recall- practice this exercise 3 times on every walk

- Wait till your dog is a little ahead of you or busy sniffing
- Say your dog's name ONCE and immediately start backing away from him while holding the leash and present your hand target
- When you dog touches the hand target say 'YES' and reward with a treat or a quick sprint if your dog likes to run.

Hand targeting away from a distraction

Practice having your dog hand target away from the following to earn a treat or access back to it.

- Sniffy spots on the sidewalk
- To get to greet dog friends on the street

Impulse control

Practice the following exercises using a selection of reinforcers (kong/treats/kibble/toy)

- Duration of 15 seconds in low distracting environment (hallway, friends house)
- Eye contact with duration before releasing
- Moving object closer to the dog
- Placing object farther away from dog (15ft-20ft) before releasing

All the above exercises starting in a down position

Paw

- Begin by having a treat in your right hand but keep it buried
- Hold your right hand at your dogs nose level(no higher)
- Keep your left hand (catching hand) low
- Reward every correct response with 'yes' and treat

Loose leash walking

Bring your clicker and high value treats out on every walk
Remember, the walk starts as soon as the dogs leash is attached.
Give penalty yards for pulling (especially heading closer to dog park if you go)
Reinforce your dog as often as necessary (every 3-5 steps) with clicks and treats for walking by your side (right or leftside). This week you will be quite lavish with the treats in order to compete with the environment.

Also, have your dog sit at the curb before you cross the street (release them with 'okay, let's go')