



DROP & TRADE

LESSON: DROP

1. **Find a Toy/Rope** your dog likes. Actively play with your puppy on the floor making the toy mimic a prey animal they can chase. Let your puppy grab on with their teeth and play a nice game of tug. (Say "OUCH" and stop playing if the puppy bites you accidentally).
2. **To teach "DROP"** you want all the fun and activity of tug to stop. You will work your hands close to the puppies mouth, sandwiching your hands on either side of the puppies mouth and hold still. The idea is that this game is boring and your dog will lose interest and drop the toy. Be patient. Wait.
3. **The moment the dog releases** the toy from the mouth you mark with a "YES" then toss it or offer it right back to actively tug again. Repeat 8-10X
4. **Verbal Cue** Once 80% proficient at the above steps add the verbal cue "DROP". Repeat 8-10X

LESSON: TRADE

1. **Find a toy/rope** your dog likes. Actively play with your puppy on the floor making the toy mimic a prey animal they can chase. Then let your puppy grab on and play a nice game of tug. (Say "OUCH" and stop playing if the puppy bites you accidentally).
2. **To teach "TRADE"** drop the toy/rope you were first playing with and find another toy/rope.
3. **Offer the new toy/rope** to your dog with the verbal cue "TRADE". When offering the new toy/tug do so in an exciting way- squeak it or drag it on the floor like a prey animal. Once the puppy drops the old toy, mark with a "YES". Playing with the new toy becomes the reward. (You may need to make the first toy a lower value toy. i.e. trade up).