HUNTING GAMES – GROWING TOGETHER

🎾 Game 27 - Moving RZ

Do you have value for Reinforcement Zone?

🎾 Why This Game Matters

Testing your dog's value for Reinforcement Zone next to you gives valuable information of where your dog's focus sits: work or environment?

This game also teaches a stop when I stop – very handy for crossing roads and advanced Hunting Games.

🎾 What You'll Need

- High value treats
- Leash
- Toy
- Phone on Tripod

🎾 Step-by-Step-Guide

1. Set Up

Prepare your training area, make sure you're playing on a non-slip floor. Chose a low distracting environment.

2. Build the Behaviour

- Have your dog sitting next to you in RZ
- Reward in this position a few times.
- Take a step forward. Step back and reward your dog for staying in position.
- Take a step forward and release your dog.
- Does your dog come up to find RZ? Great, wait for a sit and reward. Refrain from cuing the sit.
- Have a nice game of tug.

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3. Add a Layer

- Take a few steps out from your dog and release them. Reward when they find RZ and offer a sit.
- Repeat this step a few times and then have a nice game of tug.
- Move into a quarter turn, release your dog. Reward when they come into RZ.
- Turn another quarter, releasing your dog in the movement and reward when they find RZ.
- Keep turning until you have made a full spin.

4. Raising Criteria

- Add half turns into the game.
- Keep growing this game until you can spin 360 degrees with your dog in RZ.
- Place a distraction about a meter away from your 360 Spin area.
- Play in many different environments and on both sides.

🎾 Advancing the Game

Add medium level distractions to the game.

🎾 Troubleshooting

My dog is coming around to sit in front of me.

Interrupt the behaviour by stepping back and ask for a Hand
Target. Move forward as your dog touches your hand, this will bring them back into position next to you. Keep repeating until your dog is sitting by your side. Review the Reinforcement Zone Game.

My dog is cutting short, sneaking behind me on the spins.

Slow down your spins and open your shoulder. Repeat this until your dog understands the game.

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My dog leaves to go for the distractions.

Quietly take them by their collar, gently lead them back. Increase the distance to the distraction. Try again.

If your dog keeps going for the distraction, revisit RZ and control the distraction. Increase distance.

🎾 Daily use

This game will help your dog to focus on your movement and staying by your side. Exactly what we like for walking nicely together. Move value created for being at your seam.

🎾 Checklist:

1. Did you review your session?
2. Did you keep sessions short and fun?
3. Does your dog have value for RZ?
4. Look at your dog's T.E.M.P (Tails, Ears/Eyes, Mouth, Posture)
5. Can your dog offer a sit when you stop moving?

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