Teach Your Dog A New Behavior

IN 3 SIMPLE STEPS

**Elicit the Behavior**

**Lure**
Encouraging the dog to follow a treat to get into the correct position.

**Shape**
The process of building a new behavior by gradually rewarding approximations of the final behavior.

**Capture**
Waiting for the dog to offer the behavior unprovoked, and then rewarding that behavior.

**Mimic**
The tendency of a dog to do what another dog or the trainer is doing.

**Mark the Behavior**

**What is a Mark?**
A mark is a distinct signal that lets your dog know that they have performed the correct action. A mark is always paired with an immediate reward. It is also known as a bridge or a secondary reinforcer. Common marks include a clicker, the word “yes,” or a specific hand gesture.

**How to use a Mark**
When your dog performs the desired behavior, immediately mark it with your chosen signal.

**Reward the Behavior**

**What is a Reward?**
A reward is something that your dog enjoys. Give your dog the reward immedietly following your mark. Make sure the reward you use is something your dog really likes.

**Examples of Rewards**
- Dog biscuits
- Sniffing a favorite spot
- Ball throw
- Frisbee toss
- Tug

- Hot dogs
- Boiled chicken
- Liver
- Carrots
- Soft dog treats