

## Training for Shelter Dogs

### “Watch Me”

We begin with “watch me” as it is a great way to start a “teacher –student” relationship with the dog. This helps him learn to focus, which will aid in further training activities. This tool will also help calm the dog in stressful situations, build confidence and develop trust.

#### Key Points:

- **Encourages attention**
- **Helps the dog focus**

1. Hold a treat in front of the dog’s nose (almost touching) and slowly move the treat from his nose to your nose.

2. As eye contact is made, click, or use “yes” verbal cue, and deliver treat.

3. Repeat lure, click and Reward each time the dog looks at you.

4. Once the dog is reliably looking at you, add the verbal cue: “Watch me” as you practice with the lure.

**Pair name recognition with a watch me cue for a powerful attention tool, eg. “Ripley, Watch Me”**