



Food Prison

In a secure container (the prison), such as a crate or small cage, place high value food or a toy that is valuable to your dog. Your dog should not be able to access the reward without your help. Let the dog see you put the reward in the container. Close up the container and allow your dog to investigate as long as they like.

Watch for any orientation to you away from the container or the environment.

Mark "YES" and reward your dog with food from your hand.

Bonus: open the container and reward your dog with what is inside. Repeat a few times as necessary.

Have patience. Let your dog figure this puzzle out. The answer is to orient toward you. Don't prompt or cue. No "Leave it" or other verbal discouragement. We are teaching a concept: Self-control. We want the dog to think "If I think I need something, I should look to my person for information. My person is the better deal."