Magic Hand

Magic hand is a brilliant technique to teach your dog focus and build value in proximity.

To play:

1. Get a small handful of treats and close them in your hand. Turn the back of your hand towards the floor.

2. Use your thumb to 'load' the first treat onto the bent knuckle of your index finger and hold it there with the pad of your thumb.

3. Hold your hand directly above your dogs nose, high enough so that they don't jump or try and get the treat from your hand (this is usually easier for them if they're sitting)

4. Release the treat by slowly pushing it off your knuckle with your thumb

5. Your dog should do the rest! Don't panic if they don't catch it to start with; this is a game of effort, have a laugh and get excited when they make an effort to try catch it!

This game is progressed best with frequent, short, sessions and a good belly laugh.

Grab a couple of pieces of kibble out of their food at mealtimes or a couple of treats out of your bag on a walk and give it a go.

Once your dog can catch the treat as its on the way down, its time to level up!

To make it harder:

1. Can they do it in 'heel' position?
2. Can they do it in 'middle'?
3. Can they do it whilst you're walking along?

Top Tip: If your dog is struggling, change your aim! Try to land the treat directly onto the tip of their nose