

## Puppy Trainer Family Improv Game Mutts GONE Nuts

**Art Form:** Theater • **Other:** Collaboration

### DESCRIPTION:

The object of the game is to get the family member (puppy) to perform a trick with positive reinforcement from the rest of the family members. The positive reinforcement will let the puppy know they are on the right track until they get the trick correct. The challenge is to complete the game without using words.

### RECOMMENDED AGE(S):

All ages

### TIME TO COMPLETE:

15 minutes or longer if family members switch roles

### MATERIALS NEEDED:

▶ Open space for movement

### WHAT YOU DO:

1. Decide who will be the puppy or puppies if it's a larger group.
2. Send the puppies out of the room so they can't hear the conversation.
3. The trainers decide what trick they want the puppy to do. Some options are prance, dance, skip, wiggle, shake hands, and speak.
4. Once everyone agrees on the trick the puppy will perform it is time to call the puppies back in the room.
5. The puppies will begin to try different tricks. If they perform the trick incorrectly the trainers will not respond in any way.
6. When the puppies get closer to performing the trick correctly the trainers will SHOW their positive reinforcement by using excited facial expressions and gestures like a thumbs up or silent cheering.
7. As they get closer to the correct trick the trainers will become more animated in their positive reinforcement.
8. When the puppy performs the trick the game is complete.



### HOW YOU CAN SHARE:

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