

Evaluation Item: Walking on Leash ▾

Evaluator Level: Green ▾

Introducing “Let’s Go”

You can use your usual leash for this activity, but if you have the training and experience this activity also works great on a long-leash.

1. Explore a large area with the dog, (parking lots are great for this.) As you explore, deliberately walk away from the dog.
2. Every time you change direction or pace, tell them “Let’s Go!” This should almost feel like you are trying to get away from the dog, but they just won’t leave you!
 - a. Throughout this activity try to avoid pressure on the leash. We want the verbal “Let’s Go” to be the reason the dog is following us, not the leash! Vary your tone, your excitement level, your enthusiasm, and your speed. Your goal is to become the most engaging/fun thing around! (Be mindful of the dog’s arousal level. We don’t want them to get so excited that they tackle you!)
3. Don’t forget to reward the dog for really good instances of walking nicely with you!

Adopter Highlight

This activity has the potential to look very “flashy” very quickly. How cool is it to see a dog available for adoption walking nicely on-leash? Don’t hide from potential adopters when choosing a place to practice this, we want them to see this dog in action! This is a great introductory activity for a potential adopter or foster to get to know a dog. This is also a great activity to do while talking to an adopter about how this dog prefers to exercise!

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