

Objective

By the end of this lesson, you will have a basic understanding of sheep dog training techniques and commands.

Materials and Prep

- Sheep dog
- Whistle
- Sheep (can be represented by stuffed animals or drawings)
- Open space for training
- Comfortable clothes and shoes
- Prior knowledge of basic dog training

Activities

- **Activity 1: Whistle Training**
Practice using different whistle commands (e.g., stop, go left, go right) with your sheep dog. Start with simple commands and gradually increase complexity.
- **Activity 2: Herding Simulation**
Set up a small area with obstacles to simulate herding sheep. Use your dog to guide the "sheep" through the course using commands.
- **Activity 3: Recall Training**
Work on recall training with your dog by calling them back to you using a specific command. Reward them for coming back promptly.

Talking Points

- **Understanding Your Dog**
"Dogs are intelligent animals that respond well to positive reinforcement. They enjoy having a job to do, like herding sheep."
- **Importance of Consistency**
"Consistency is key in dog training. Using the same commands and signals helps your dog understand what is expected of them."
- **Building Trust**
"Building a strong bond of trust with your dog is essential for successful training. Spend quality time with your dog to strengthen your relationship."
- **Patience and Persistence**
"Training takes time and effort. Be patient with your dog and keep practicing regularly to see progress."