REWARDING OFF A NEGATIVE

When teaching your puppy, be careful not to reward directly off an undesirable behaviour, as this can accidentally create a behaviour loop. Dogs are brilliant at learning patterns. If an unwanted behaviour is followed by a positive behaviour and then a reward, they can learn that the unwanted behaviour is the first step in the sequence that earns reinforcement.

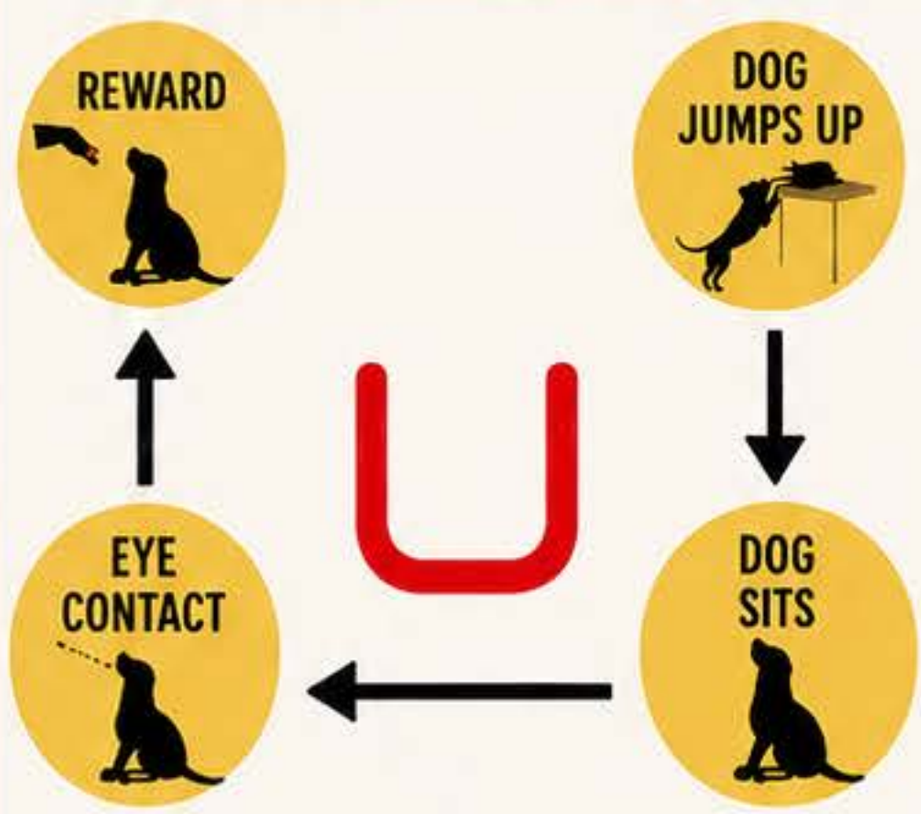
REWARDING OFF A NEGATIVE



Example: jump up → sit → reward.
The dog can quickly learn that jumping first is part of the sequence that leads to reinforcement.

VS.

BREAKING THE BEHAVIOUR LOOP



By adding **another positive behaviour** before the reward, you create separation between the unwanted behaviour and the reinforcement.

JUMPING IS JUST ONE EXAMPLE.

This principle applies to any unwanted behaviour loop.

KEY TAKEAWAY:

Watch the pattern, not just the individual behaviour.
Break the loop by asking for another positive behaviour before you bridge and reward.



Better communication. Stronger connection. Real life ready.