

# THE NAME GAME PHASE 3

(with your dog off leash in a fenced area)



## GOAL:

When you say your dog's name, he immediately turns his head toward you

## WHERE:

In your yard, then in **safely-fenced**, varied **low-distraction** locations, with your dog off leash

## TRAINING EQUIPMENT:

A wearable treat bag filled with treats, a marker signal (verbal or clicker)

SCAN ME



for details of Lisa Waggoner's book,

***The Original  
Rocket Recall™:  
Teach Your Dog  
to Come***

This phase of the Name Game is similar to Phase Three of the Check-In Game. Your dog will be off leash, but in a fenced area. When your dog is consistently achieving the goals for both phases of the Name Game, he should be ready for off-leash training. Always train in a **safely fenced area**.

## Training:

- Go for a leisurely stroll in your yard or a safely-fenced community location. While your dog is looking away from you, say his name in a happy tone of voice.
- The **instant** he turns his neck toward you, even before a full head turn, mark/feed and praise, then remove your attention to let him check out the location. Resume your stroll.
- Again say his name (one time) in a happy tone of voice and the **instant** he orients toward you, mark/feed and praise your dog, then once again remove your attention.
- Repeat multiple times in varied locations until you get immediate head turns.
- Your goal is to help your dog always get it right. This is not about testing his limits with a newly learned skill.

## Problem Solving:

- If at any time the exercise isn't successful, decrease the distance between you and your dog, move to a lower distraction area, and/or raise the value of your reinforcer. If that fails, go back to the point in training where you were last successful and practice there before moving forward again.