



## 2/18/17 GRRMF Reunion Seminar

K9 Nose Work is an amazing dog sport for companion dogs utilizing their natural scenting abilities. It is FUN for both human and canine, and a great way to mentally stimulate dogs. Imagine if we were successful each and every time we practiced an activity. K9 Nose Work builds confidence as the dog is rewarded during each search. This sport also builds independence and grows the bond with canine and human.

### The Items

Cardboard Boxes – Large enough to fit a dog's head

High value treats or Toy. It depends on the dog's preference.

Inside Location

Each dog searches individually

Flat buckle collar or harness – no prong, choke, or shock collar on.

### The Shuffle

1. Start with 3 – 4 cardboard boxes. One box contains the food/toy.
2. Use good doggy body language.
3. Go at the dog's pace.
4. Play the shell game 5 - 6 times.
5. Pick up the boxes when finished.
6. Always end while you both are having fun.

### Amazing Noses

Dogs' sense of smell overpowers our own by orders of magnitude—it's 10,000 to 100,000 times as acute, scientists say. "Let's suppose they're just 10,000 times better, If you make the analogy to vision, what you and I can see at a third of a mile, a dog could see more than 3,000 miles away and still see as well." says James Walker, former director of the Sensory Research Institute at Florida State University

Put another way, dogs can detect some odors in parts per trillion. What does that mean in terms we might understand? Well, in her book *Inside of a Dog*, Alexandra Horowitz, a dog-cognition researcher at Barnard College, writes that while we might notice if our coffee has had a teaspoon of sugar added to it, a dog could detect a teaspoon of sugar in a million gallons of water, or two Olympic-sized pools worth. Another dog scientist likened their ability to catching a whiff of one rotten apple in two million barrels.

"We found that when airflow enters the nose it splits into two different flow paths, one for olfaction and one for respiration," says Brent Craven, a bioengineer at Pennsylvania State University

Excerpt from "Dog's Dazzling Sense of Smell" <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/nature/dogs-sense-of-smell.html>