



Below are examples of different treats and food that other nose work students have used, from low to high value. I recommend using high value or super high value for nose work. It may seem like your dog will work for low or medium value food in the initial stages, but this may change once he/she starts searching in distracting environments or for more challenging hides. If your dog has a strong history of always receiving high value rewards during nose work training, then he will more likely be able to ignore distractions and overcome challenges in the environment that present themselves. Also, when the dog transitions to target odor we want the dog to associate it with high value rewards!

LOW VALUE

- Dry dog biscuits
- Kibble

MEDIUM VALUE

- Zukes-type training treats
- Dried jerky treats
- Other non-refrigerated packaged dog treats

HIGH VALUE

- Freeze dried meat treats such as liver and salmon
- Freshpet Vital and other refrigerated dog food/treats
- Sausage rolls (such as Happy Howies)

SUPER HIGH VALUE

- Sliced hot dog
- Cheese
- Cold cuts (turkey, ham, bologna)
- Steak, chicken, liver and other cooked meat and fish (i.e. not packaged dog treats)
- Raw food (but please don't bring raw meat to class; use it for your own practice)

All treats for nose work classes will ideally be cut up into small pieces about 1/4 to 3/8 inches in size. It is more rewarding for the dog to receive many small pieces over a duration of time, rather than one big treat that he can inhale in 1 second! I also recommend using soft, moist treats that are easy for the dog to eat and will not make him cough.