ANCHAZ GSD

PUPPY NIPPING

**Teach your puppy that teeth and skin just don’t mix.**

It’s normal and even cute when your puppy nibbles and even lunges at your hand. Since your puppy has been exposed to only other puppies in the litter who naturally play with mouthing and biting. It would make perfect sense why he would assume that playing with you wouldn’t be different. But as they grow and their bodies become stronger, what was once cute nibbling eventually turns into uncomfortable or even dangerous rough playing bites.

Your dog has to learn that he should take treats gently from your hand and also that any game involving humans don’t get toothy. But were lucky because dogs already know this. Watch a little puppy play with his litter mates when he’s still with his mum. If one puppy gets a little bit bity the one that been bitten will go “ouch!”. The game will stop completely. So puppies learn very early that when teeth come out, play finishes. So we need to teach them that it’s exactly the same thing with humans.

**How to stop puppy biting: training tips**

First of all take a treat, hold it in your hand and wrap your fingers around it and no matter how much your dog tries to get at it, bite your hand or paw at your hand you mustn’t let him have it. What you have to wait for is the minute that his nose comes away from your hand. That’s what you’re rewarding him for. He needs to know that he’s never ever going to get a treat by biting your hand. The only way he’s going to get it is to stop doing it and back away from the hand a bit. That way he knows that biting and grabbing a hand is never going to get him a treat. It’s also a very good way to give a treat to a dog that you’ve never met before. Wrap the treat in your hand and then open your fingers gently and let the dog have it. Since biting is an unacceptable type of play with you, it’s important to teach your dog how to play with toys instead of your hand. Playing is a healthy natural activity that helps build a bond between you and your puppy. Before teaching your puppy not to bite it’s important to tech him to decrease bite pressure. When you’re playing with toys it’s the same thing, his teeth mustn’t ever touch your hand. If they do you say “ouch”, kind of the same way his litter mates would and turn away from him. So if you feel his teeth on your hand at all you let him know with a little “ouch”, turn away and let the game stop for a few seconds. Make sure to speak up every time he bites too hard so that your puppy can learn your threshold for what is acceptable and what isn’t. Then go back and play again but he has to remember not to use his teeth and to be more careful next time. What’s really important is that everybody in the family practices this, not just you. Anyone who plays with the dog has to teach him that teeth and skin don’t mix.