

## **Setting Your Puppy up for Success on the Grooming Table**

-Find a treat that your puppy loves but ONLY gets during practice sessions

-Give lots of positive reinforcement and treats in between the following steps

1. place your puppy on a table, use a towel or mat to prevent slipping
2. spend some time feeling around the toes, separating the toes and moving hair around, massage and rotate the foot and joint above it, if you have nail clippers you can open and close them right beside the nail to mimic the sound of actually clipping nails
3. massage around the face, lift up the lips and move them around
4. massage the ears, take a tissue and roll it around inside the ear (no q-tips!), feel and lightly tug on the ear flap
5. use a finger and gently feel around the space between the eyes and all around the eyes
6. lift the tail up and down, encouraging puppy NOT to sit, feel around the tail base

-while doing the above steps you want to encourage your puppy to be still and not dance around on the table

-make sure to give lots of hugs and kisses